

Ne'eman acquitted of all charges

By LIAT COLLINS

It was still not clear last night whether former justice minister Ya'acov Ne'eman wants to return to the cabinet, after being acquitted yesterday of charges of perjury and suborning a witness, nor what post he would get if he does return.

PM is torn between lovalties, Page 3

Likud Party sources speculated that initially he might be appointed a minister-without-portfolio, particularly as Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu seems hesitant to remove Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi in the aftermath of the Bar-On Affair. Netanyahu and Ne'eman met yesterday.

Coalition MKs - particularly members of the National Religious Party and Sbas - who met with the prime minister yesterday, called for Ne'eman to be reinstated. MKs on the Left praised Ne'eman's acquittal, hut were divided on whether he should return to the ministry.

Following the verdict, Ne'eman said: "I want first and foremost to praise God - because justice is the Lord's - who has shown my innocence as clearly as the midday sun." He thanked his family, friends, and acquaintances for their support and said that, as a religious man, he

who say the law is above all else should themselves respect the law and the basic principle that a person is innocent until found guilty in COUIL

After the acquittal, Ne'eman's lawyer. Dan Sheinman, slammed the judicial system for presenting indictments "too easily."

There should never have been an indictment in the first place," he said of the charges against Ne'eman. "The whole judicial system should draw its conclusions and learn its lessons from this indictment and the trial."

Coalition and Likud faction chairman Michael Eitan called for Ne'eman to be reinstated as justice minister and said there are "several people - including politicians, jour-nalists, and members of the legal profession - who owe Ne'eman an apology,"

Hanegbi told reporters he congranulated Ne'eman on the verdict. and "had identified with him to a certain extent." He would not say whether he would evacuate his position for Ne'eman. Hanegbi asked that no one cast hlame on the State Attomey's Office for indicting Ne'eman, saying it does its job faithfully.

Auomey-General Elyakim Rubinstein reacted similarly. "It's easy to attack the State

Attomey's Office: to attack the Supreme Court. It's much more difficult to be constructive," he said. "We all, the whole public, must realize they work based on clear



State attorney considering appeal

By RAINE MARCUS

Former justice minister Ya'acov Ne eman was acquitted yesterday by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court on charges of perjury and suborning a witness.

Judges Dan Arbel, Edna Beckenstein and David Rosen rejected prosecution claims of criminal intent on Ne'eman's part, ruling that mistakes Ne'eman made in an affidavit to the High Court of Justice were simply errors, and corrections he later made to the affidavit were not made with the intent to mislead.

The acquittal came after an expedited trial, in which Ne'eman's lawyer Dan Sheinman requested that prosecution witnesses provide written testimony instead of appearing in court.

After the decision. prosecutor Ruth David met State Attorney Edna Arbel, who signed the indictment, to discuss the implications and weigh the possibility of an appeal to district court.

Senior legal sources said the acquittal will create waves in the State Attorney's Office, which has been accused of indicting public The charges against Ne'eman arose from the ongoing trial of MK Arych Deri. Prosecutors charged Brown in their presence.

that Ne'eman made a false declaration to the High Court regarding an alleged anempt to persuade prosecution witness Martin Brown to change his testimony. Ne'eman was also accused of having lied about when he first met Deri.

But the judges concluded that Ne'eman had been open and conperated completely with investiga-tors, and had simply made a mistake about the date in question.

In acquitting Neteman, the judges criticized police for failing to question the accused's law partner, Ehud Sol, who helped Ne'eman write the affidavit to the High Court. Sol's testimony was first heard when he appeared in court as a defense witness.

In their decision, the judges noted that Ne eman had written the affidavit the day he was appointed justice minister.

The day a man is appointed a minister in Israel is no ordinary one...therefore it is acceptable that certain mistakes be made," the udges ruled.

The judges noted that, during the investigation, Ne'eman offered to take a polygraph test to disprove prosecution claims that he had been then Brown wrote a letter to him. Police refused the offer, as they did his proposal to phone

believes that, "We all suffer tests ... I hope and pray that no one [else] ever has to go through the experience of being tried on the grounds of an unfounded indictment."

Netanyahu, in response to Ne'eman's acquittal, said: "One of the things that really angered me was the haste and speed with which people passed judgment." He recalled several recent trials in Agriculture which and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan

and several mayors were found innocent of various charges.

"The speed and insufferable case with which some public figures blame other public figures without the matter being proven in court. in my opioion, creates a dangerous norm in our public life," said Netanyahu. "I suggest that those

professional considerations and it's natural that sometimes the court has a different opinion (from the state attomey's]. There is nothing wrong with that."

State Attorney Edna Arbel told reporters she was still studying the verdict. She noted that the court had not said that her office had erred in indicting Ne'eman, but had simply accepted his attorney's arguments. Her office has 45 days to appeal the verdicL

Arbel refused to say whether she would continue to serve as state attomey if Ne'eman returns to the ministry, saying only, "Time will tell."

Shas leader Arveh Deri told Army Radio that former attorney general Michael Ben-Yair had been motivated "solely by irrelevant consid-

soldiers.

Wednesday.

sector of the security zone.

IDF gunners returned fire.

Hizbullah gunmen fired Sagger missiles at two

IDF tanks in the Barasheet area in the western

attack, although one of the tanks was damaged.

Deri said he had always been sure of Ne'eman's innocence, and that he is not sure that Ne'eman would

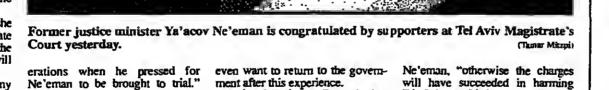
National Religious Party faction [him] despite his innocence." chairman Hanan Porat said the

prime minister should reinstate



will have succeeded in harming

See NEPEMAN, Page 18

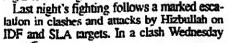


Heavy fighting reported in Lebanon

By DAVID RUDGE

Fierce battles were reported raging in south Lebanon last night, with Israel Radio and television reporting that IAF aircraft took part in the action. This was followed by heavy IDF artillery bombardments of the area, with over 350 shells being fired within two hours, according to the reports.

The fighting was reported to be centered around the Zumriyya crossing along the northeastern edge of the security zone. According to the reports, the exchanges erupted around 9 p.m. and were still continuing after midnight.



response to that attack, with some of the shells morning in the Ali Tahr hill range, in the eastem sector of the zone, the IDF Spokesman said falling close to Barasheet and other villages at least one Hizbullah gunman was killed, north of the zone. There were no reports of any casualties from while there were no casualties among the IDF the shelling.

Hizbullah, in statements issued in Lebanon, Meanwhile, Israel Radio reported yesterday said one of its fighters had been killed in clashthat the IDF had received warnings that terrores with IDF troops in the Tel Dabsha on ist organizations intended to try to kidnap soldiers in the security zone. In a separate incident late Wednesday night,

The radio quoted a report in the Arabic-language weekly Al-Wanan Al-Arrabe that Ahmed Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command

There were no casualties from the missile group was behind the kidnapping plot. The radio report said the IDF was treating the information very seriously and had Beirut radio stations reported that there had instructed troops in south Lebanon to take the been heavy shelling by IDF gunners in necessary precautions.

Uri Lubrani, government coordinator on Lebanon, said on Israel Radio yesterday that Iran has shipped large quantities of weapons to Hizbullab via Syria in the past four months. These include some more advanced weapons than those Hizbullah has possessed so far." They were shipped in 37 flights aboard jumbo

There have been unconfirmed reports that some of these shipments may have included long-range Katyusha rockets capable of reaching Haifa's bayside suburbs from Lebanon.

Lubrani, speaking at a conference in Washington, said Russia and China continue to provide Teheran with technology to produce nuclear weapons. He said Israel would do all its in power to prevent Iran from obtaining non-conventional weapons.

BACKGROUND

Justice portfolio could trigger cabinet reshuffle

By SARAH HONIG

portfolio.

Prime Minister Binyamio Netanyahu must now figure

out how to deal with two men

who have claims on the Justice

Former justice minister Ya'acov Ne'eman has not said

he wants the portfolio back, but

neither bas he said he doesn't.

And Justice Minister Tzahi

Hanegbi has made no secret of

the fact that he wants to keep it.

portfolio problem were

bandied about among coalition

The first was that Ne'eman

the Bar-On Affair, can continue

in office. Then, under one pre-

members yestenday.

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A number of solutions to the

text or another, a major reshuffle would be triggered and Ne'eman would end up with his old portfolio.

Hanegbi's removal would be explained by the fact that he was told from the start that Ne'eman bad a prior claim on the portfolio, and that it would be returned to him if he was acouitted.

Hanegbi could then be returned to the Health Ministry - though he never really liked the post - and Health Minister Yehosbua Matza could be given the diminutive Science portfolio relinquished by Ze'ev Begin

wait until the High Court of Aoother scenario is that Justice rules on whether Ne'eman would be made a Hanegbi, whose performance minister-without-portfolio in the job was criticized by the until the reshuffle were possistate attorney in the report on ble.

See SHUFFLE, Page 2

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First in a series of five articles: The 'Teshuva' movement: Gaining new adherents among the young and disadvantaged

COMMERCIAL

By DAN IZENBERG

There are those who would argue that the real battle for the Israeli soul is not being fought in the media, on Jerusalem's Rebov Bar-Ilan or at the site of the Ramat Aviv mall. It is being fought, they say, in the poor neighborhoods and development towns. The foot soldiers in this campaign are those activists in the hazara betshuva organizations - many of them funded by the state or other public bodies - who aim to turn secular Jews into haredim.

In many cases, those who enter the haredi fold are well-adjusted adults who, for reasons of their own, are dissatisfied with the valtance - is the obligation of every ues and customs of secular cul-

the weaker elements in society, believing them to be the most impressionable and therefore the likeliest to accept a haredi way of life. And in some cases, the teshuva movement seeks to wean secular children and teenagers away from their homes and the traditions and values of their families. Such a campaign is curreotly being waged in poor neighborhoods throughout the country, on the assumption that children coming from disadvantaged, sometimes dysfunctional homes, will be more vulnerable to the haredi message. In the classic sense, teshuva translated as atonement or repen-

ture. But in others, the hazara bet- Jew. It is the process of on-going shuwa. used by these religious soul-searching and self-assess-ment which the believing Jew must carry out constantly toimprove himself and make sure he

does not slacken in his observance. But the term hazara bet-

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groups to describe their goal, has come to mean the "return" of nonobservant or unaffiliated Jews to 02-6257827 strict halachic observance.

See TESHUVA, Page 17



shuva activists deliberately target

NEWS

Friday, May 16, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

US proposes \$50m. cut in aid to Israel, Egypt

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - The administration is proposing that Israel and Egypt volunteer to each assume a \$50 million cut in their aid package, with the funds then going to other countries supporting the Middle East peace process.

The lion's share of the \$100m. total could go to support Jordan, according to Observers here. Under the 1998 fiscal year budget that President Clinton sent to Congress, Amman is already slated to receive \$70m. in civilian and military aid, up from \$40m. this year. Israel is still weighing the American proposal, one of several offered.

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said the US is "looking for ways that we might assist those nations who are willing

"Now, we're still examining ways that we might provide this substantial assistance to Jordan. There have been no final decisions made in our government. We have been in close consultations with the Israelis on this issue, and with others, and

we'll continue those consultations. "Jordan deserves our support because of King Hussein's leadership and we are actively trying to find ways to get that support."

The proposals apparently aim in bolster Amman while demonstrating to a cost-cnnscious Congress that the administration can imaginatively address a foreign policy prinrity without requiring new funds. "We know what the goal is: to be helpful to Jordan," said one pro-Israel observer. "One [option] is a straight cut. Another is cre-

to take risks for peace, like Jordan. ative financing. There are three or four initiatives being discussed. "What I mean by creative financing is seeing if there's a way to work with Israel's debt repayment [to the US]. You don't have to look at it as taking \$50 million off the top."

The foreign assistance bills are now moving through Congress, but it is unclear now whether any aid change would be instituted in the coming hudgetary cycle that begins in October.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu last year told Congress he hoped to begin weaning Israel off US aid, but Jerusalem has long been amhivalent toward even a slight reduction for the precedent it would set for future cuts.

Israel receives \$3 billion in US aid, with \$1.8b. being military and

\$1.2b. civilian. Egypt's sums are \$1.2b. and \$805m. The \$50m. cuts would come out of each country's civilian aid package, which is considered less sensitive to reductions. The House International Relations Committee in recent weeks handily rejected several attempts to cut foreign assistance. Mark Sanford of South Carolina unsuccessfully offered an amendment last week to the aid anthorization bill to reduce the US's overall foreign assistance by \$2.9b.

The House postponed yesterday's scheduled consideration of amendments to the authorization bill due to a failure of a supplemental appropriations hill amendment the day before. The foreign aid bill will not be amended until early June after a week-long congressional recess, a Capitol Hill source said.

Levy meets Albright today

Ross returns to US after stalemate talks

By HALLEL KUTTLER and Jerusaiem Post Staff

WASHINGTON - Foreign Minister David Levy is to meet today with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in what Israeli officials here describe as a higher-level discussion of the peace process predicament.

It will be Levy's first visit here on his own right since the government was formed last June. He accompanied Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu here for the White House summit with Palestinian Authority chairman Yasser Arafat in late September following the Western Wall Tunnel riots. The Levy-Albright meeting was to have occurred earlier in the month, but was postponed due to a scheduling error sur-

rounding Albright's visit abroad at the time. While the Israeli-Palestinian stalemate stands at the top of the Levy-Albright meeting, the American peace process team headed hy Dennis Ross has been in the region for a week pursuing that very issue. Ross will not be participating, since the team is not due back in Washington until tomorrow,

But an embassy official asserted that the timing is "excellent" and the talks are occurring at "exactly the right time, because the process is at such a sensitive point. With all due respect to Dennis, you have to raise the level of the dialogue [to Albright]. It's not contradictory, it's complementary."

Levy's brief visit also includes a meeting with National Security Adviser Sandy Berger. Meanwhile, the first political talks since March between Israeli and Palestinian negotia-

tors on Wednesday night in Herzliya proved fruitless, as expected by both sides. Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat told The Associated Press: "I never felt so far away from being these people's partners as I did last night." The US mediation team, however, consid-

ered the talks at the home of US Ambassador Martin Indyk useful. "Both sides made clear they want to find a way to put the process back on track," said Ross.

Erekal described the meeting as "very, very frank ... and very, very hitter, angry at points." "That's really what it was, a dialogue, one that we hope we can build and develop," Ross said before

meeting with Arafat last night in Ramallah. Ross met with Netanyahu in Tel Aviv earlier in the day. Netanyahu estimated that the Wednesday meeting "can be a basis for further meetings."



PA policeman arrested in murder of J'lm land dealer

Policemen hurry Nasser Anani (center) into the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday,

where he was remanded for seven days in connection with the murder last week of

By JON MINAMUEL

Jerusalem land dealer Farid Bashiti.

Police have arrested a Palestinian Police officer and a woman in connection with the murder of a Jerusalem Arab land dealer who was suspected of selling land to Jews,

Nadia Dabbash, a mother of 6, is suspected of luring 70year-old Farid Basbiti to Jerusalem's Ambassador Hotel.

Rights and the Environment, known by the acronym LAW. insisted that until it is proven that the PA was involved there is no human rights case.

"It may be just a criminal act with no official involvement," said Shawki Issa, deputy director of LAW. Bnt Bassem Eid, of the

Human Rights Monitoring

house every day. My client also knew him, but as a lawyer."

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lated that as a lawyer, Anani may have known about Bashiti's land deals, and that as a policeman he may have been pressured to take part in the kidnap-murder to prove his innocence.

In Tel Aviv, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu described the implication of the PA in the killing as a "grave violation of the Oslo agreement."

Hillel Kunler adds: The US for the first time

called on PA chairman Yasser Arafat to condemn the murder

"We think it's very important that chairman Arafat and the PA officials involved emphasize that the rule of law must apply in territories controlled

A Palestinian source specu-

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NEWS

CONTEXT / HERB KEINON **Acquittals stir debate**

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a'acov Ne'eman: Not guilty. Rafael Eitan: Not guilty. Herzliya Mayor Eli Landau: Not guilty. Petah Tikvah Mayor Giora Lev: Not guilty. Eliat Mayor Rafi

Hochman: Not guilty. The above is a partial list of high-level public officials charged in recent years with various offenses and then acquitted in court. Even athough other indictments, most notably against former Jewish Agency head Simcha Dinitz and Shas MK Yair Levy, have held up in court, yesterday's acquittal of former justice minister Neteman has stirred the debate whether the State Automey's Office has gotten a hit triggerhappy when it comes to public officials.

"Definitely," said Tel Aviv lawyer Avraham Pachter, formerly a senior deputy district attorney in the Tel Aviv district attorney's office. In cases involving public officials, Pachter

said, "if it is a borderline question whether to indict or not, the penchant is to pass the decision on to the court."

Although on the surface it sounds reasonable to let the courts rule in high-profile cases, Pachter said that the publicity, and the resultant distress it causes the defendant, should be taken into account. "Do you think that Ya'acov Ne'eman today

is the same Ya'acov Ne'eman from before the indictment?" he asked. "The bigger the public figure, the harder he falls. Therefore there has to be much more caution then usual. I hope this standard also filters down to everyone facing an indictment."

But David Kretzmer, a professor of constitutional law at Hebrew University, disputed the notion that the state attorney is too quick to

indict public officials. He said that it is not rea-sonable to expect that every indictment will result in a conviction. Nor, he said, is an acquittal a sign that somehow the state attorney failed.



Ya'acov Neeman

(Issue Haran)

The fact that someone was acquitted says nothing about the decision to indict him. When the decision is made to indict someone, it is taken on the basis of evidence at hand, not knowing the line of defense, or how the defendant will try to refute the charges," Kretzmer said.

The state attorney, Kretzmer said, is in the impossible simation of being damned if she does hand down indictments, and damned if she doesn L.

"Can you imagine what would have been said if Ne'eman was not indicted?" Kretzmer said. "People would have screamed that the state attorney is going easy on him because he was justice minister."

The entire debate over the state attorney's decisions to indict is relatively new, Kretzmer said, and is a result of the Supreme Court's judicial activism. Kremmer said that up until about 10 years ago the Supreme Court was very hesitant about involving itself in the state attomey's decisions on indictments.

This situation ended in the 1980s when the Supreme Court blasted then attorney-general Yosef Harish for not indicting the central figures in the bank-share scandal. Other high-profile instances where the court has expressed displeasure with a decision not to indict were the cases involving former police inspector-general Rafi Peled and NRP MK Avner Shaki. The decision not to indict Shaki, said Hebrew University political science professor Avraham Diskin, weakens the argument that the state attorney only indicts politicians from the Right. But this argument is still heard fre-quently, and posters asking what happened to

the cases against Labor and Meretz politicos Binvamin Ben-Eliezer, Yisrael Kessar, and Dedi Zncker, have for days been plastered all over Jenusalem.

Torn between loyalties

By SARAH HONIG

ANALYSIS

Had the High Court of Justice ruled on all the cases accruing from the Bar-On Affair on Wednesday, and had it unequivocally removed any legal threats to Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi's remaining in office, it would, paradoxically, have been a lot easier to take Hanegbi's portfolio and give it back to his predecessor, Ya'acov Ne'eman.

But as long as the court keeps Hanegbi dangling, he is politically immune.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is now stuck between a rock and a hard place. He is committed to both Hanegbi and Ne'eman. If he does not let one down, he will be seen as betraying the other. His only safe move for now - is to do nothing. That may be precisely what he is

going to do. There have been rumors that a cabinet reshuffle is in the offing. Ne'eman might be reinstated as part of such a reshuffle. But even that cannot be done unless the High Court rejects the petitions demanding Hanegbi's custer. Removing Hanegbi, even for the most legiti-mate reasons, while his case is still

pending, would be an expression of no-confidence in him. Sources close to Netanyahu say there is no chance this will happen.

The Bar-On Affair has created a bond of a common ordeal between Netanyahu and Hanegbi despite the fact that Hanegbi was obviously not his first choice to be justice



Michael Ben-Yair

minister. Netanyahu had picked Ne'eman, who is not an MK, as part of his plan to appoint men of excellence to key posts. Netanyahu still holds Ne'eman in very high regard. His exoneration was greeted with genuine delight in the government, where it was charged that the former attorney-general Michael Ben-Yair, had already prevented Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan - who was later cleared of charges that at the time were being investigated - from becoming internal security minister.

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In Eitan's case the damage done is regarded as ineversible, despite Eitan's considerable political clout. Ne'eman, who comes from outside the political system, carries no such clout.

. This is not to say that he does not enjoy support inside the cabi-net. Many of those who clamored for Hanegbi's removal in the wake of the Bar-On Affair yesterday seized eagerly on Ne'eman's acquittal. Ne'eman is also popular in the NRP, Shas and in many Likud quarters.

Whether all this could be translated into solid pressure on Ne'eman's behalf is an entirely different question. The new realities created while Ne'eman was clearing his name have made it far from certain that Neumyahu can reinstate him, at least not immediately.

There are various scenarios for resolving the matter, including appointing Ne'eman as a minister without portfolio until a more farranging reshuffle is possible.

But the bottom line is that Netanyahu is torn between two loyalties, and will be damned if he does and damned if he doesn't.



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OPINION

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Imperfect over unacceptable

Testerday's acquittal of former justice minister Ya'acov Ne'eman of all the accusations against him marks the end of a nightmare for Ne'eman, but not of the govemment's troubles in the arena of judicial appointments.

Ne'eman's innocence does not make him an ideal justice minister, hut imperfect is an improvement over unacceptable. The court's decision was unusual in its complete rejection. of the prosecution's case, prompting some commentators to suggest that the court put into question the eotire basis of the indictment. Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein pointed out that in recent years there have been 15 indictments of mayors, Knesset members, and ministers - including Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan - who have been acquitted.

It would, of course, not be a bealthy state of affairs if prosecutors only recommended indictments when they were positive that the courts would convict. But the opposite situatioo, in which prosecutors are too quick to indict public officials, is perhaps even more disturbing. One reason is the prospect of ruining the lives and careers of innocent people. No justice system is perfect, so each must constantly choose which risk to minimize: accusing the innocent or letting the guilty go free.

Democracies rightly lean towards protecting the innocent. The streets of dictatorships might be among the safest in the world, but most people prefer freedom. The other reason is that the public trust of the justice system is one of the great treasures of a democracy. If indictmeots only rarely lead to convictioos, then the serionsness of indictments is diminished in the public eye. If being under indictment is to be held incompatible with holding high public office, as it should be, then the public must believe that

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein said in reacting to the verdict that it is very easy to harm the public's confidence in prosecutors and the justice system itself also bears responsibility to continually earn the public's confidence.

meot during the trial of Ne'eman. Now that Ne'eman has been acquitted, the job should he his if he still wants it. Always an unlikely choice for the post, giveo

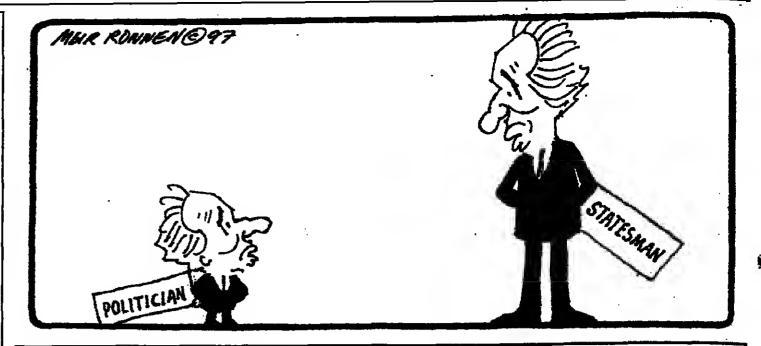
his penchant for political guerrilla tactics, Hanegbi's bandling of the Bar-On Affair confirmed that he is unfit for the job. The state attorney's report found that Hanegbi, while not involved in any criminal conspiracy, did not investigate after being warned of the real possihility of such a conspiracy. Theo he misled the cabinet when arguing for the oominee hy implying that Supreme Court President Aharoo Barak did oot oppose the appointment.

Such behavior need not be considered criminal for it to be deemed unacceptable for the minister of justice, of all people. Haneghi's unwillingness, so far, to voluntarily offer to return his seat to Ne'eman is itself one more reason he should be booted out of it.

Unfortuoately, eveo if Ne'eman returns to his former post, the occupant of that seat remains problematic. His statement implying that the Justice Ministry hureaucracy hlocks the appointment of religious people is ironically the sort of generalized, unsubstantiated accusation of which he himself has been a victim.

All hureaucracies have their cultures and prejudices, but there is no excuse for ministers to hlithely bandy about accusations against the very people who look to him for leadership. In any case, by seeming to judge his staff hased upoo wbether they wear a kippa or oot, Ne'eman exhibited precisely the sort of prejudice of which he accused others. If Ne'eman is to return to his post, he is within his rights to insist oo professionalism and lack of bias. To do this, however, he must not himself set an opposite example.

The Ne'eman acquittal is also an opportunity for Netanyahu to partially correct the damage indictments are not being made frivolously. from the Bar-On Affair in two ways. First, it provides a reasonable way to remove Hanegbi from the Justice Ministry, without having to the courts, and much harder to rebuild that conadmit that the affair has tainted his ability to fidence. He is right that the public must not rush continue in that job. Second, it is a chance for to impugn the motives of the prosecutors, but Netanyahu to show that he has learned that he cannot ignore the desire of most of his cabinet and the public that the post of justice minister be filled by someone fully qualified to hold it. If One necessary step to increase this confidence is in the hands of Prime Minister Binvamin Haneghi is kept on despite the most convenient Netanyahu: He should take this opportunity to possible opportunity to remove him, it will be a remove Tzahi Hanegbi from the Justice sign that Netanyahu cannot learn from his mis-Ministry. Hanegbi entered the ministry with the takes, and that there will likely be more to understanding that it was a temporary appoint- come.



Why this fierce self-mutilation?

JOSEPH DAN

There is something that I do not understand, something that has, indeed, perplexed me for a long time.

One of the important results of

throughout the world.

Israel. This situation has changed dramatically over the last twn decades. Today, the only place in the world where the variety and complexity, the dynamism and relevance of the Jewish beritage is

cially in North America and Europe, now teach Hebrew and Jewish studies, and the subject is universally recognized as an inte-

ple, Jewish philosophy and mysticism, Hebrew language and literature are perceived as complex disciplines arousing interest among Jews and non-Jews. Like every other national and religious culture, Judaism is understood as including various and conflicting trends and emphases, together forming a dynamic, vibrant, and developing contribution to human culture.

Western culture today is comprised of oumerous such cultural complexes, each of which retains its particular characteristics. From Ireland to Mexico, from Sicily to Alabama, all present their essential uniqueness, at the same time forming the huilding blocks of the global cultural and intellectual civilization.

In the first decades after its establishmeot, the attitude of Israel's secular majority conformed to this universal approach. Judaism was understood as being not only a religious tradition but a national culture too, one which could be integrated with Western civilization. The fusion of the two was regarded as the basis of the emerging culture of the State of wholeheartedly accept the most

important component of the haredi worldview - the one in which they are absolutely wrong - the claim that only the haredim are the sole representatives of Judaism as a whole, past, present, and future, and that only they express "true

We vebemently reject haredi years ago, most of my teachers claims in every aspect of life,

THROUGHOUT the history of

the state, secular Israelis never

gave legitimacy to any attempt to

create a moderate concept of

Judaism which could be integrated

207) and the lack of a serious infor-

mation campaign created the cur-

rent grave situation. The Navon

report warned about a conspiracy of

silence which hindered the spread

of AIDS information. It also warned

of a tendency to denounce anyone

"We believe that this tendency of

concealment was mistaken from

the outset... it should have been

clear to the policy makers that such

a secret cannot he kept from the

public for an extended period

the gravity of the situation"

I was a little surprised when a

legal expert from the Press

Council said in a well-reasoned

verdict that "freedom of the press

must not take precedence over

damage to the sensitivities of an

Navon report (Page 2): "The com-

mittee believes that extensive

information and prevention activi-

ties are oot a luxury, hut a matter

This directly contradicts the

(Navon report, Page 21).

ethnic group."

of life and death."

breaking that silence as a "racist."

with contemporary culture.

Secular Israelis have torn up their ticket to contemporary global culture

thought, and politics; but we see and fellow students, like me, led a them as the only legin mate Jews. secular life. None of us found any It is hardly surprising that the inhereot contradictioo hetween our dedication to Jewish studies haredim view themselves as the and our adherence to Western val-"true Judaism"; yet incomprehensiues, norms, and methodologies. ble that secular Jews in Israel accept that claim, including Isaiah and In recent years, however, a powerful process of radicalization Bialik, Maimonides and Agnon, the Zohar and Mendelsohn in the haredi complex, and hating it all.

the intensely secular majority. This, in turn, caused a swift weakening of the middle.

more and more as antagonistic to contemporary culture, as if only its rejection could enable one to accept Western oorms.

The secular intellectual community developed a deep comity toward anything it conceived as representing haredi Judaism. This came to include even the Bihle, Jewish history, and the history of the Land of Israel, and classical Hebrew literature. The paradox is that while secular

Judaism, which is open to a plu-Israelis fiercely reject haredi culturralistic concept of Judaism, nor in al, social, and religious norms, we the non-Jewish intellectual world,

them (it should be ooted that later

tests showed there were no AIDS

carriers). Viral benatitis was also

common (Navon report, Page 15).

"Before the arrival of the

Operation Solnmou immigrants, a

grim picture of the rampancy of

the AIDS virus among the com-

munity residing in Addis Ababa

was revealed to the Health

Ministry. The decision was taken

not to make this information pub-

lic, but to examine all the immi-

grants upon their arrival in Israel.

complexity of Judaism as it does nf every other culture. As a result of this paradox.

fewer and fewer secular Israeli students and scholars are dedicating themselves to Jewish studies, while abroad the numbers are increasing, with Jewish studies appealing to a diverse group of people, both Jews and non-Jews. More and more scholarly books are published abroad, while their number in Israel is decreasing.

which recognizes the variety and

Contemporary civilization does oot welcome people who hate themselves and cut themselves off from their autheotic cultural heritage. He who approaches Western culture empty-handed will receive only the external aspects of this culture.

We oppose the haredim in every possible way, yet we ate surren-dering our identity to them, as well as our ticket to contemporary global culture.

Why? I have no answer. If anyone has, I shall recommend wholeheartedly that he he nominated for a future Israel Prize.

Meanwhile, I can only express the hope that we shall overcome this self-imposed self-mutilation, and recognize that the diversity of Jewish culture can both sustain Israeli spiritual life and serve as a bridge to our integration in the best achievements of Western culture.

At this point, however, things seem to be going in quite the opposite-direction.

lh

this

The writer, Gershom Scholem professor of Kabbala at the Hebrew University, received this year's Israel Prize for his studies in the history of Jewish mysticism, thought, ethics, and literature.

the establishment of the State of Israel was the intense spread, over the last two generations, of the academic study of Judaism

Hundreds of universities, espe-

gral component of intellectual life. The history of the Jewish peo-

brought about the emergence of a schism between the haredim and

Judaism came to be regarded

We seem to insist that only the haredim are legitimate Jews, thus contributing to the weakening and erosion of every meaningful middle road uniting Judaism with Zionism and with openness to Western culture. Why do we do it? This attitude has no parallel either in Diaspora

Silencers & those who shout 'Beware!'

denied is among the secular community in Israel. When I started my studies 45

Judaism.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

QUOTATIONS

Sir, - In a recent op-ed article ("Hail the elite," May 1), Larry Derfner basically calls on an "elite group of people to save Israel from the majority that elected the present government. "There is a saying that goes something like this: Democracy is too precious a thing to entrust to the will of the people.

After checking four books of quntations (Oxford, Bartlett, Webster, Stevenson) and two encyclopedias, I believe that the source for Derfner's inspirational quote is none other than Larry Derfner himself, who seems to have confused "democracy" with "war," as in "War is much too serious a thing to be left to military men."

Derfner calls for the "elite" to take over from the majority of "fressers" who brought Netanyahu to power. Here, we learn that Derfner has gone beyond the feudalist concept of an aristocracy measured by birth to an aristocracy measured by girth. Those who stuff their faces at the beach, as Derfner says, need not apply to the high priesthood he would impose against the will of the people. Yes, police investigator Sando

Sir, - Jay Bushinsky's op-ed article of May 7 on the Deir Yassin Memorial calls for the truth, but distorts it at the same time. For Defense. example, Bushinsky claims Deir Yassin was laid waste and that it physically no longer exists. That is not true; the center of the village is

today the mental hospital at Kfar Shaul, and thanks to this, most of the huildiogs are still in very good shape. A comparison of any detailed pre-1948 map and a map of Jerusalem today will bear this out.

Bushinsky disputes the claim that about 25 captured male villagers were paraded through the streets of Jerusalem and then taken back to a quarry at Deir Yassin and shot to death. But eyewimesses have testified to the same. And the claim is corroborated by the account of the Israeli military historian Colonel Meir Pa'il, who witnessed the massacre and pho-

NO TELEPHONE SUBMISSIONS

Mazor probably agrees with Derfner that he (Mazor) is part of in general. Archie, however, was at least entertaining when he manthe elite, and when he opened the gled words and invented quotathree-month investigation, he told tions. And as Archie's wife Edith several reporters: "We'll show would agree, Archie was somethem that we're more than just a times even cute. Derfner, however, hunch of shepherds," Still, Mazor has a real Bunker mentality: "If looks more like the rotund Sancho 'the people' decide, we may be in Panza than Clint Eastwood to me, trouble. and he hardly fits the image of I think someone once said some-Derfner's lean, mean fighting thing to the effect that though machine.

After insulting and berating he majority of voters. Derfner then begins to threaten Prime Minister Netanyahu himself lest Netanyahu "try to replace the elites." What would happen? Derfner tells us self-appointed pseudo-elite: "the intelligentsia would revolt." I can just hear Netanyahu's knees

shaking. Still, Derfner is worried that (George Bernard Shaw) Netanyahu's majority - despite the scandals - might actually be getthe ultimate powers of society but the people themselves." (Thomas ting bigger. "Worst of all, 'the people' seem to be attracting new Jefferson) individuals to their ranks all the time." Woe unto us all. by the uneducated, while aristoc-Well, he rants and raves some racy means government by the more against "the people" - the badly majority - in much the way that Chesterton) television's Archie Bunker used to ran1 and rave against minorities in America and against "meatheads"

DEIR YASSIN tographed it. His evewitness account was made public years ago, although his photographs are

Palestinian were executed tomor-

row, it would still not compare to

Holocaust. Nevertheless, it is a

great irony that Deir Yassin lies

only 1,400 meters from Yad

Vashem and is clearly visible from

it. In a land where one is taught

"Never Forget," is is breathtaking

to see people like Bushinsky try to

hide or gloss over one of the most

tragic events in 20th-century

On a posiove oote, Bushinsky

says, "A Deir Yassin memorial? We cannot object..." I should hope

Palestinian history.

the six million Jews killed in the

to Jews who have fallen in wars or still locked up in the Ministry of been slain in massacres throughout their history. A memorial to It is also a distortion to malign Palestinians massacred at Deir the Jewish and non-Jewish mem-Yassin will be a part of both bers of Deir Yassin Remembered Palestinian and Israeli history and claiming they compare Deir both sides will visit it. Yassin in the Hulocaust. If every DANIEL A. MCGOWAN,

Jerusalem.

Director. Deir Yassin Remembered New York.

"Democracy means government

educated."

MICHAEL WIDLANSKI

(G.K.

WRONG FACE

Jerusalem.

Sir, - I refer to your photograph of May 6 captioned: "Ronald Harwood gives a fine performance as Wilhelm Furtwängler in Taking Sides. The garb may be Furtwangler's, the face is Oded

SHMUEL SCHNITZER

If my thinking cost me the Israel Prize,

at least my conscience is clear

y somewhat gloomy forecast of three years ago in Vicast of three years ago in an article on the Ethinpian community entitled "Importing Death" has, to a great extent, been borne out. It has been confirmed in two offi-

cial publications: the report of the Navon Commission, which examined the reasons behind the decision not to accept blood donations from Ethiopians; and Chapter 47 of this year's State Comptroller's Report, which deals with AIDS and is largely based on the Navon report.

From both these publications, a dismal picture of establishment recklessness emerges.

democracy is a pretty stupid sys-Despite my condemnation by the Press Council, by the president, and in a High Court decision, I was tem, it's still the best one we have. Here are my selections of quota-tions to be taken as antidotes for correct in my pessimistic assessmalevolent Derfnerism that would ment that the aliva of non-Jews and place our fate in the hands of a AIDS carriers would be detrimental to the Ethiopian community; "Democracy substitutes election and my fears were realized.

by the incompetent man for Because of what I wrote, I was disqualified as a winner of the ppointment by the corrupt few." Israel Prize and labeled a racist. "I know no safe depository of

I can live with the decision that 1 would not get the prize, also with the besmirching of my good name. The question is whether the Ethiopian community can live with its betrayal by the Israeli establishment.

Naively, that community trusted us - and we betrayed it. We hrought upon it the terror of AIDS, a disease for which there is no cure. It is our fault that "the risk of

becoming infected with the disease among this community is 500 times greater among males and oot. For to do so would undermine 400 times greater among females the spirit of the many memorials than in the general population' (Navon report, Page 9).

The course of events was as follows: When Ethiopian Jews arrived in Israel in 1984 within the framework of "Operation Moses," the Ministry of Health's epidemology department discovered there were quite a few cases of malaria among

POSTSCRIPTS

record straight.

Teomi's.

M. IVRY

WE'RE GETTING a bad rap here at the Post, and it's time we set the can be a good thing.

Shortly after we ran an ad that included a product called "kvetchup," we got a letter from a reader pointing out our humorous error. Then the London Jewish Chronicle published an article needling us for our Freudian slip. It was not a mistake, Some marketing genius came up with that name for a squeezable ketchup bottle. "Kvetchup" it is. video screen magically appeared.

SOMETIMES, A little confusion

Theresa Terry of Jerusalem relates a story of a woman who forgot which cable channel was used for video viewing. She decided to call a friend for belp. But adding to her absent-mindedness, she inadvertently picked up the

ferris wheel. remote control instead of the telephone, and upon pressing the first two digits of her friend's number, the

PLANS TO build a £10 million Millennium Wheel in London to mark the year 2000 have been approved.

Lambeth Borough Council in sooth London gave the go-ahead for the 150-meter-bigh project which will be the world's biggest

The Millennium Wheel, sponsored hy British Airways, will be built on the Thames opposite the Houses of Parliament,

know. Its cooperation with the conspiracy of silence shocked me. I decided to ignore its raling.

Even the president joined those who condemned me. Without examining the facts (he would have had no difficulty in obtaining a copy of the Navon report), he requested that I apologize. With all due respect, I could not. In my opinion, the duty to apologize falls on the silencers.

But most serious of all was one paragraph of the High Court ruling which annulled the minister of education's decision to award me the Israel Prize.

The justices said that the prize committee must reconvene to reconsider its decision. But this time it had to take into account the condemnatioo by the Press Council and pay attention to "Mr. Schnitzer's current stance relative to what is written in the article."

In other words, the committee was not in assess my work, nor my actions, but my thinking. And if there were grounds for believing that my stubborn brain still formulated forbiddeo thoughts, the prize must be denied me.

This seems to me the first time that the legal system has examined what a person thinks, as opposed to what he does.

The prize committee, acting as thought police, found that I still harbor forbidden thoughts.

I reserve the right to think as I choose. If my thinking cost me the Israel Prize, at least my conscience is clear.

I am not the one responsible for the disease that struck hundreds of members of the Ethiopian community. It is those who kept silent and silenced others who should be beld accountable, not those who shouted warnings.

The writer is a senior journalist at Ma'ariv.

A SAUDI farmer with four wives isn't about to stop marrying despite his age of 110. He's getting married again.

Mohammed al-Bayah, who lives in the farming town of Asir and bas 72 children and grandchildren, is allowed a maximum of four wives, according to Islamic law. He will presumably have to divorce one of his four wives hefme taking another.

. . . -----

"In a meeting of the steering committee on AIDS held ou June

report, Page 9), nwing to a mistaken policy of indiscriminate immigration. Those who were hurt hy this policy were the Ethiopian

The low level of awareness among these immigrants of the danger of the disease about which the state comptroller has warned (Pages 206, and protect the public's right to

the rate of carriers among the Ethinpian immigrants (Falash Mura) continuing to come to Israel every month is 3-8 percent" (Navon report, Page 9).

immigrants themselves.

The policy of concealment on the part of absorption and health bodies had tragic consequences. Before July 1990, no AIDS carriers were found among those examined. Since then, there has been a rapid increase (Navoo

I INNOCENTLY believed that the purpose of the Press Council was to enhance freedom of speech

"It is possible that this tendency also harmed the community itself. 27, 1991, Dr. Moshe Mashiach since the lack of all the facts may reported that 2 percent of the immihave hurt the quality and effecgrants tested positive for AIDS antibodies. All branches of the tiveness of the information campaign among the community, and press were requested not to publish may even possibly not have prethis data" (Navon report, Page 17). vented incidents of infection with "One worrisome statistic is that the disease among members of the community, who were unaware of

OPINION

Let's institute civil marriage The proposed conversion law

NAOMI CHAZAN

prohibiting recognition of non-Orthodox conversions in Israel continues to haunt Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahn and his governmeor

Since the bill passed its first Knesset reading at the end of March, there has been a palpable and worrisome - deterioration in Israel's relations with Jews abroad.

Unprecedented denunciations of Israeli policy on this issue hy leaders of the Reform, Conservative, and Reconstructionist movements in North America are now adversely affecting support for Israel on other matters.

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Their ire has only been aggravated by Netanyahu's last-minute cancellation of his appearance at the coovention of Arza, the Reform Movement's Zionist organization, and by his feehle attempts to dismiss the severity of the proposed legislation by suggesting that it merely entrenches the so-called "status quo."

This controversy simply will not go away. · Israel's official attitude toward

conversion touches on the very essence of Israel as a Jewish and democranic state.

Israel cannot be a homeland for all Jews if it does not respect and protect the diversity of beliefs, backgrounds, and perspectives of the people who live in the country and, by extension, the heterogeneity of the Jewish heritage.

No one can deny that a basie feature of Jewish history has been the constant creation and reshaping of different streams of tradition and practice. Since the very inception of Judaism, Jews and Jewish communities have developed different ways of relating to the core of Judaism and of living Jewish lives.

Refusal to recognize the different interpretations that exist today in the very country dedicated to respecting and honoring the lives of all Jews is to reject the basic tenet of Jewish tradition.

This refusal also threatens to undermine the still-fragile democratic character of the State of

Israel In this already-fractious society, failing to separate religion and state impinges on basic individual freedoms, and reduces the potential for tolerance and coexistence. Thus the proposed conversion law, sadly and ironically, not only

creates a chasm between Israel It's the way to safeguard Jewish

life, our democracy, bonds with world

Jewry, and

individual rights

and the largely non-Orthodox world Jewish community; it also contradiets the basic premise of the Zionist enterprise.

TIME will oot put an end to the current tensions. The issue demands a real solution.

To date, three main proposals have been suggested.

First, the prime minister has offered to freeze the process of legislation, if the Reform and Cooservative movements withdraw their petition to the High Court for recognition of their conversions.

Such a solution would maintain the current ambiguity, prevent the law from passing - and avoid confronting the real questions at hand.

Second, government officials have suggested that the "nationality" category be deleted from identity cards (although not from the population register), thus circumventing possible discrimination against those not recognized as and divorce in this country. Jewish" by Israeli law.

While this solution might reduce The writer, a Meretz MK, is a. discrimination between Arabs and deputy speaker of the Knesset.

Jews, in this context it will effectively create two categories of Jews in Israel, and license real discrimination on this basis.

A third proposal, while perhaps more forthright, is essentially no more helpful: notation of conversion as Reform, Conservative, or Orthodox.

While legitimating non-Orthodox conversions, this alternative would create a group of Israelis whose basie rights to marry, divorce, and be buried would continuously be assailed, as these matters remain within the sole jurisdiction of the Orthodox rabbinate.

The time has come to deal headon with the issue of the relationship between Judaism and Israel. The present conundrum cannot be resolved unless the Orthodox monopoly on issues of personal status is altered.

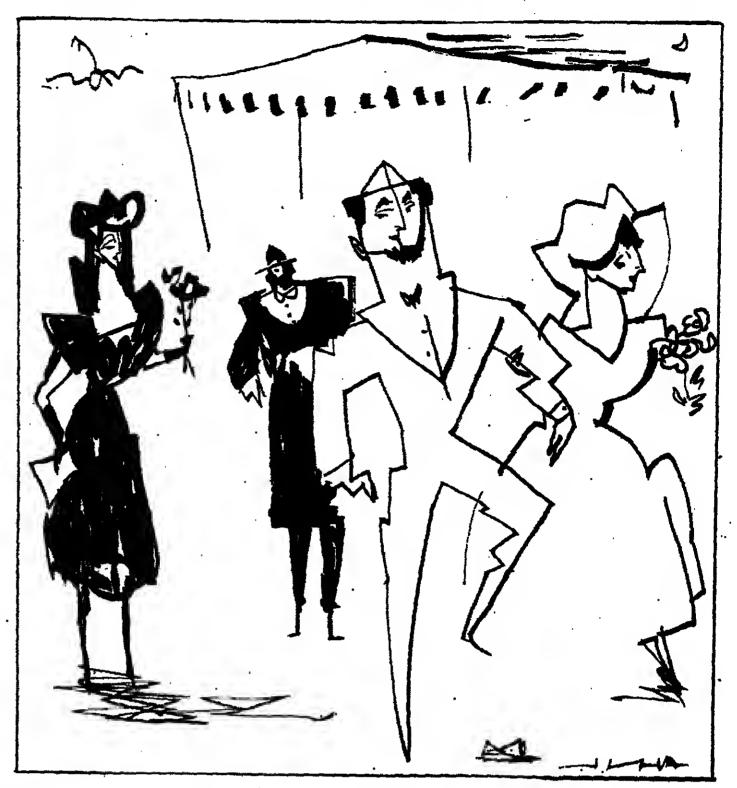
Providing for civil marriage and divorce, alongside Orthodox channels, is a first step toward separating religion from state and personal affairs. It is also a step toward the reevaluation of diversity and pluralism that democracy

entails. Such an approach also meets the needs of Orthodox groups, which would be able, by virtue of the notation of conversions, to uphold their convictions and practices.

Clearly, then, the conversion law is oot the way to establish a relationship of respect either between Israeli society and Jewish tradition or between Israeli and Diaspora

Only by addressing conversion along with other issues of personal status can a complete, legitimate response to this issue be reached.

To safeguard Jewish life, democracy in Israel, bonds with world Jewry, and the rights of individoal Jews, the time has come to authorize civil marriage



5

Two wives are better than one

while ago I joined a

Agroup of Na'amat activists who had gath-

ered at a moshav in the Netanya

remarry; her well-to-do husband

In the country's Arab commu-

ebrate Simhat Torah.

four wives.)

And when they are, the system ago, a Jewish man from applied today.

SHARON SHENHAY

forth one of the main problems of inequality and injustice between the sexes in Jewish law as it is

this treasure of ours

This precious land,

While the nation's attention was riveted on the Bar-On Affair, in which the prime minister and a cabal around him tried to gain control of key parts of the country's legal estab-lishment, a similar drama was unfolding around the Israel Lands

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Administration. The Jewish National Fund representatives on the ILA's board have succeeded - for the time being - in foiling Ariel Sharon's determination to push through adoption of the Ronnen Committee's recommendations for speeding np privatization of state-owned land, primarily in high-demand urban areas. A few days earlier, the national

infrastructure minister withdrew his nomination of Yossi Antverg as ILA director. Following the fallout over Prime

Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's railroading the appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney-general through a supine cabinet, it became clear to Sharon that the cabinet would not approve Antverg's appointment.

Antverg had been indicted in connection with the issuance of fake receipts for campaign dona-tions to the Likud. The charges were subsequently dropped in exchange for payment of a fine. Sharon's first choice for the job,

Avi Drechsler, was also dropped because of his involvement in the Nabi Samwil land scandal, one of the counts in the indictment against Shas leader Aryeb Deri. Israel is the only non-communist

country in which ownership of over 90 percent of all land is vested in the nation, rather than being owned privately. This land is administered by the ILA, which leases it out long-term for residential, agricultural, commercial, and industrial uses.

The reason for this has nothing

to do with socialist ideology. It began with the inception of the World Zionist Organization at the turn of the century, when the Jewish National Fund was established to raise money from Jews throughout the world to "redeem" as much of the ancestral homeland as possible.

It was an act of genius on the part of a landless people. Their movement for national liberation, Zionism, was supported by poor Jews who deposited their pennies weekly in the blue-and-white JNF pushkes, but shunned by nearly all the rich Jews.

Of the 92 percent of Israel owned by the nation, the Jewish National Fund accounts for 17 percent, but much of it is in highpriced, high-demand urban areas. The rest of the land accrued from land left behind by the

YOSEF GOELL

nas

refugees woo fled the country in 1948.

BUT all that is ancient history. Why not privatize land in a changing Israel whose ruling elites subscribe to the thesis that all life should be driven by market forces? Primarily because Israel is fast

on its way to becoming one of the

Putting a non-renewable commodity into private hands? it's mad, not to say Immoral

most crowded countries in the developed world. We are not yet Hong Kong or Singapore, but we are well on our way to leaving Holland behind.

In such a country, land is a nonrenewable, fixed quantity, an eco-oomie good very much like water and fresh air.

Putting such commodities into private hands is madness. What is needed is just the opposite: ensuring that decisions on land use are kept in public hands.

Land should be leased to private interests on condition that the use they intend making of it conforms to the needs of the general public. For this purpose, local zoning and planning boards are simply not enough.

We can already see the effects of The writer comments on current privatization in the increasing affairs.

the moshav rabbi, no less - had married a second wife withoot giving ber a get, or religious numbers of high-rise buildings divorce. along the beaches adjoining mari-She was thus left an aguna,

Those marinas - ostensibly built Jewish law. to attract wealthy, yacht-owning The woman, a mother of four, tourists - were really intended to took a vocal part in the demonpermit the building of expensive stration, demanding that since bomes for rich Israelis, and to her busband was a higamist he should be relieved of his positioo deprive the vast majority of the of trust and authority. public access to beaches. One of the main arguments in A New York Jewish lawyer and favor of the privatization of land is businessman was detained in that the ILA is hopelessly mired in Israel last Succot because he refused to give his wife a get.

bureaucracy. Actually, the correct term is corruption. The last exemplary ILA head was the late Meir Zorea, a former deputy chief of staff. That was

before the advent of Likud govhis new wife to Jerusalem to celernments in 1977. Since then the tendency has been to appoint party hacks to a position that is as sensinive as that of the attorney-general or state comptroller. This must change.

What the Likud government really wants to do is compensate its political donors who are building contractors and real estate brokers with chean land.

The previous Labor government was no less reprehensible in permitting many - if far from all kibbutzim to cash in on the rezoning of their leased lands from agricultural to commercial and residential use.

Not everything that we have inherited from an earlier Israel or Zionist movement is worth preserving

But the principle that the land of this tiny and overcrowded country should serve the needs of all its people must remain intact, protected against greedy private interests.

urks ye SIOWIY ictions are on behalf of a woman whose rarely applied.

husband of 30 years - currently Jewisb men have a unique status. They are able to dodge the existing bigamy law because it includes a paragraph which provides exemption from prosecution if the rabbinical court lssues prohibited from remarrying in a permit for the man to take a second wife.

Legally sanctioned bigamy is alive and well in Israel today

This permit, known as a heter nissuin, provides Jewish men with a handy solution to that irritating problem of giving their Sbe remains in limbo in New wives a gel. York, without a get, unable to

Once a busband bas such a permit, he can go ahead, take a secbas married again. He brought ond wife, and profit from the wedding gifts - as well as from the property accrued during his first marriage. Since Israeli law on the divi-

nines, the phenomenon is grow-ing of Moslem men taking as sion of marital property requires secood wives women in their ending the marriage by either mid-thirties whose families are divorce or death, an opportuniseager to see their daughters or tie Jewish husband can retain the sisters supported by a man, even property owned jointly with his if he already has another wife. first wife by the simple expedient (Islamie law says a man may take of refusing to give her a ger.

He thus prevents her from remarrying, denies her her right-Bigamy acceptable in this country? Surely not. Israel is a ful share of their joint posses-sions, and can build a comfortmodern, Western-style democracy, with legislation providiog criminal sanctions of imprisonable life with his second wife. This being the case, no wonder so many Jewish men have disment for np to five years for

covered the attraction of higamy. those who marry more than one It's just so profitable! But, one might think, surely

However, law is all very well, but it needs to be set in motion. permits to take a second wife aren't handed out so freely. Well, The tragic fact is that both Moslem and Jewish religious trathat depends on wbo's handing dition often combine with family them out. and community pressure. The result is that bigamy complaints IN a case my colleagues at are rarely reported to the police.

Beersneba decided to try and obtain such a permit because his wife had refused his offer of a get in exchange for ceding ber rights to half of their jointly-owned

apartment. In other words, she refused to be blackmailed. So the husband approached the

rabbinical court and asked for

permission to marry a second wife, explaining that he and his

current wife had three daoghters, but no sons. His wife, he said earnestly, was already 56 years old and mable to bear more children. Thus he was being denied the opportunity to fulfill the commandment of "Be fruitful and multiply," which

requires a couple to produce at least one son and one daughter. The rabbinical court in Beersheba granted him the permit.

Permits are issued to meo whose wives are legally incompetent as a result of mental illness, or have disappeared. This could he understood - were women afforded the same option. Bot rabbinical courts also give permits to men whose wives canoot bear children, or who refuse

to accept a get. The play Shaindele sensitively portrays the plight of a Jewish woman who refuses to leave Israel with her husband, whom she loves, and who has been appointed a yeshiva head in America. Unwilling to divorce, Shaindele refuses to accept a get. The hus-band then obtains a permit to marry a second wife.

Na'amat handled a few years While fictional, this story sets

Jewish men cannot be agunot. If their wives refuse to accept a get, they can apply for a permit to marry agaio.

Jewish women, however, have never had the option of taking a second husband, even in cases where their marriages have been nonexistent

Women whose husbands have disappeared, are sterile, or have been declared mentally incompetent need a get to remarry. If their busbands withhold it, for wbatever reason, they become agunot, often for decades.

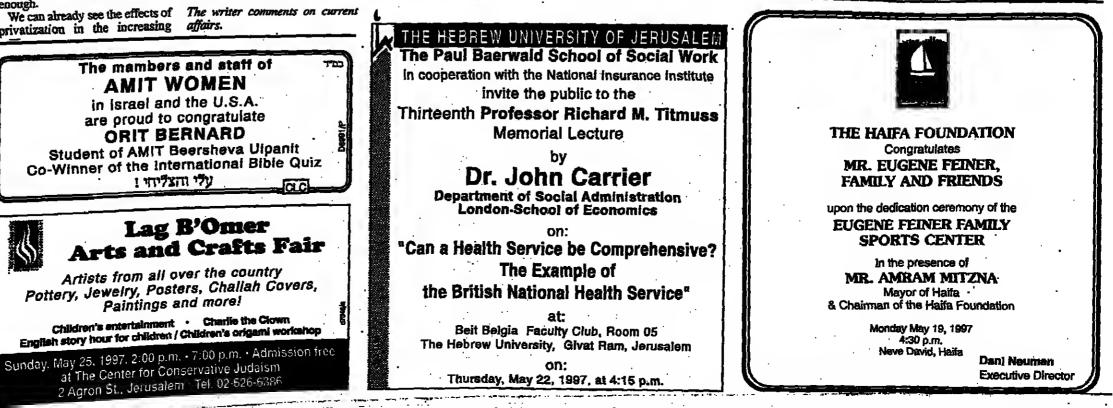
The threat of a heter can be an important factor in ocgotiating property division during a divorce. If the wife rejects her husband's terms, unfair as they may be, the shadow of the permit hangs over her.

He doesn't need a get. She does. If she proves "difficult," he'll simply get permission to take a second wife.

A Jewish husband whose wife refuses to accept a get finds a sym-pathetic ear in the rabbinical courts. Uoder Jewish law and under current Israeli law, marrying a second wife with a rabbinical court permit is not a crime. This means that legally-sanctioned bigamy is alive and well in the Jewish world today - for meo

With today's Jewish women asserting themselves and gaining greater access to Jewisb learning, it is high time they demanded equality with men in the sensitive and painful area of marriage and divorce.

The writer, former director of legal services for Na'amat in Jerusalem, is current director of the organization's Overseas Department.



WORLD NEWS

Friday, May 16, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

Mobutu, rebels fail to reach agreement

KINSHASA - Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko flew back to his capital yesterday after an abortive bid to hold a second round of talks with rebel leader Laurent Kabila.

Airport sources said he flew in from Pointe Noire in neighbouring Congo where he spent the night after Kabila, reportedly raising new security concerns, declined to join the South African sponsored talks. Mobutu might have resigned in

favour of an all-party transitional authority yesterday if the peace talks had gone ahead, South African state radio said.

The radio said it had obtained a copy of President Nelson Mandela's two-page proposal for an agreement which said Mobutu would step down within 24 hours of signing it.

It said the document proposed a 10-point agreement calling for Zaire to be run by a transitional authority comprising representa-tives of all parties in proportions agreed to by Mobutu and Kabila until elections are held.

"Is states that Mobility will vacate his post within 24 hours of signing

Family in Israel:

future role in government struc-tures, but his safety and that of his family will be guaranteed. He will also be given the courtesy and dignity usually afforded to a former head of state," the radio said.

Government and diplomatic sources said the division of power within the transitional authority between followers of Mobutu and Zaire. of Kabila was a current sticking

point An inicial proposal for a 60-40 split in Kabila's favour had been scrapped, partly as a result of French government objectons, they said

"If he (Kabila) had gone to the ship, a process of transition would have started this moming. This process (the Mandela document) would be a lot shorter than the military option," a government source said.

Mandela, unbowed by his failure, yesterday scheduled talks with Kabila. He sent a plane to the Angolan enclave of Cabinda to bring Kabila to Cape Town for an afternoon meeting. President Thabo Mbeki would

remain in Pointe Noire to maintain

the document. He will play no contact with Mobutu's government future role in government struc- delegation, said South African government spokesman Ricky Naidoo "In our view the talks are not derailed. Kabila has not said that he will not talk, he has merely raised concerns about his security.

"We think there is still a very large opening for them both to walk through to achieve peace in

Asked wbether Mandela, wbo refused to take the peace ship out to sea, was irritated by Kabila's behaviour, a spokesman said: "The president was very calm. The bumanitarian tragedy unfolding in Zaire is unprecedented. There is no amount of patience he cannot find. He is compelled to contin-

A member of the Organisation of African Unity delegation in Pointe Noire told reporters the OAU was very pessimistic about prospects for a negotiated peace following the cancellation of the second faceto-face meeting between Mobutu and Kabila.

Mobutu agreed at talks on the same ship on May 4 to hand power to an elected president, but no arrangements were agreed.

> Eddie Murphy sues tabloids

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Eddic Murphy has filed separate lawsuits against two tabloid publications, saying they published false stories prompted by his encounter with a

transsexual prostitute. The suits, filed yesterday and each seeking \$5 million in damages, contend the National Enquirer. The Globe and their reporters knew the stories were

Murphy filed a third lawsuit against an individual identified as Ioane Sejuli for comments attributed to him in the New York Post. The Post itself was not named as a defendant in the suit, which seeks \$1 million in damages.

Murphy has said be was just trying to be nice when he picked up Atisone Seiuli, 20, in West Hollywood on the morning of May 2 while undercover sheriff's deputies looked on.

Murphy, 36, was pulled over minutes after Atisone Seiuli got into his car. Sejuli was arrested on a warrant, but authorioes said Murphy had broken no law.

Atlantis off to repair Mir

Eileen Collins, Elena Kondadova of Russia, Jean-Francois Clervoy of France, Edward Lu, Carlos Noriega, Michael Foale and

dimming star.

"We're on our way!" shuttle com-36 years ago.

Astronaut Michael Foale couldn't wait to get going. He will spend more than four months aboard Mir, swapping places with Dr. Jerry Linenger once Atlantis arrives at the station tonight.

Mir was halfway around the world on its 64,190th orbit of Earth when Atlantis blasted off promptly at 4:07 a.m., momentarily turning the dark sky into day. The shuttle was visible for more than seven

Linenger and his two Russian crewmates on Mir were out of contact with ground controllers at the time and had to wait for the good news. Mir commander Vasily Tsibliev saw the illuminated, empty launch pad when the station later flew over Cape Canaveral. This will be the sixth time Atlantis docks with Mir - and

arguably the most important. The 11-year-old station has had numerous breakdowns as well as a fire since Atlantis dropped Linenger

off in January. Although the situation bas improved in the past few weeks, it's still serious because of the lack of functioning spares in Mir's life-support systems.

The oxygen generator, which was rushed into production by the Russians, will be one of the first items moved into Mir during the five days of linked flight. The 115its astronauts to live on Mir and kilo cylinder is designed to produce

oxygen from waste water via electrolysis, and will replace a broken generator aboard Mir.

Also among the more than one ton of Russian gear bound for Mir. a valve for a still-unbuilt backup unit for removing carbon dioxide from the air; hoses, clamps and caps for plugging leaks in the cooling system; and carbon monoxide

detectors Officials in both space programs liken Mir to an old car that needs constant tinkering to keep running. But the station has traveled 2.5 billion km and was meant to last only

five years. Many wonder how many more years - or days - it has left. "The Mir has been limping along for a number of years now," said

James Oberg, an independent consultant on Russian space technology. "Money's the key. The Mir is a cash cow for the Russian Space Agency." NASA is paying bundreds of millions of dollars to the Russians for

gain experience for the future international space station. The shuttle-Mir program is supposed to end in June 1998, when the seventh and

final astronaut returns from the sta-

Foale, 40, a British-born astrophysicist, will be the fifth NASA astronaut to live on Mir NASA managers debated for weeks before giving him the go-ahead; they wanted to make sure the stadon was safe. He's already been to Mir, but never inside.

He came within 12 meters of Mir during a 1995 shuttle flyby that was a rehearsal for the docking missions.

Peering at him through a station window was Russian cosmonaut Elena Kondakova, who is one of his shuttle crewmates and, in fact, is the first Russian woman to fly on a US spaceship.

Also on board Atlantis are a Frenchman, the first Peruvian-bom astronaut and NASA's first female shuttle pilot.



Commander Charles Precourt.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida

(AP) --- Space shuttle Atlantis and a crew of seven soared into a clear pre-dawn sky yesterday in pursuit of Russia's orbiting Mir stadon, in urgent need of the oxygen generator and other repair equipment being ferried up.

mander Charles Precourt said in Russian - poyekhali, the same word uttered at liftoff by cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, the first man in space

Danes rage over US seizure of child

JOACHIM (Peter) EILON 577

On the first anniversary of the passing

of our dearest

Shocked and grieving on the

sudden death of our dear

EMILIO BRUNS 57

PAULA and IRWIN BRENNER

MALKA and RONI COHEN

TALLY and MICHAL COHEN

we shall meet at his grave at Har Hamenuhot, Jerusalem, on Wednesday, May 21, 1997 at 5:30 p.m.

The Family

After a full and rewarding life, my beloved husband

EMILIO BRUNS

August 14, 1915 - May 10, 1997 prematurely and unexpectedly has left us forever.

The memorial service took place in Toronto on May 15, 1997.

Interment will take place in the Martin Luther Church in Trittau (near Hamburg)

on May 21, 1997 at 3:00 p.m.

A spokesman for the actor, Paul Bloch, said only that the lawsuits "speak for themselves." The Enquirer article, Eddie Murphy's Secret Sex Life - His Transvestite Hooker Tells All, included accounts of alleged encounters between Murphy and two transsexuals.

"The more beautiful and

fuller the memories, the

serenity and a treasured gift.

harder is the parting.

But the thankfulness

One remembers the

wonderful past as a

Dietrich Bornhoeffer

With love, gratitude

Good-bye.

and deep sadness, I say

DANIELA BRUNS

precious legacy."

converts into quiet

NEW YORK - The clash of cultures that divided a Danish woman and ber baby - and Danish and American public opinion - was nearly resolved after five days when authorities reunited the family at an undisclosed

locadon. Sorensen and her daughter were reunited at the Danish Seaman's Church in Brooklyn

Heights. "You should have seen them together," Hans Grunnet, the Danisb consel general told the Daily News. "They were wooderful." He added that the baby appeared in "perfect" condition. "She was well taken care of," be said.

While Sorensen regained custody of her chubby-cheeked 14-month-old daughter, New York officials were insisting that police acted properly in charging her and the child's father with endangering the welfare of a child.

The couple were arrested when they left Liv outside a restaurant in the rough East Village neighborhood while they dined inside. This

News agencies

Yeltsin yesterday praised the new pact mapping out relations between Moscow and NATO, but his

MOSCOW - President Boris

became a tale of two cities: New York, where leaving your child unattended outside a restaurant is a crime, and Copenhagen, where the same act is normal procedure.

"To leave a child unattended for an hour on a city street in New York is pretty inapproprisaid child services commissioner ate.' Nicholas Scoppetta.

The international incident began when Sorensen, visiting from Copenhagen for a month, and the baby's father, Exavier Wardlaw, a movie production assistant wbo lives in New York, met for dinner in the East Village. Sorensen, as is customary in Denmark, left the baby in a carriage outside the Dallas BBQ restaurant.

The parents were at a table two meters away, separated from the child by two tables and a plate glass window.

Employees and other diners asked about the

child's safety but the parents rebuffed them. One customer than called 911.

Police arrested both parents and jailed them

for three days. The child was taken away and placed in foster care. The father was additionally charged with disorderly conduct, and both parents have a May 19 court date.

The case has reverberated across two continents. New Yorkers were stunned by the idea of parents leaving their child on the sidewalk. Danes were outraged by the idea of police arresting parents sitting near their child.

The parents "had no idea that there was anything wrong with what they were doing. They were on one side of a glass partition, and on the other side was the child," said Wardlaw's lawyer, David Kirsch.

Wardlaw, an American who has lived in New York for more than 11 years, believed the child was perfectly safe, Kirsch said. A Dane would find it strange that "you

could actually be charged here with leaving your child outside a place very near where you could see what was going on," said Kim Christiansen, a spokesman for the Danisb Consulate.

Yeltsin hails **NATO** pact

ful, undivided, democratic Europe." Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov, who negotiated the agreement with NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana, said it was "a great victory for reason."

defence minister said it did not resolve all problems with the The agreement creates a NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council that will give the Russians a voice, but not a vote, in NATO deliberations. The council will have its own secretariat at NATO headquarters and will be the principal forum for security consultations.

In the agreement, the alliance repeated its position that it had "no intention, no reason and no plan"to put nuclear weapons on the territories of new members, which will include some former Soviet allies

pledge never to do so. But Russian Defence Minister Igor Rodionov, in Hawaii on the last leg of a visit to the United States, said the agreement did not address all outstanding issues between NATO and Russia.

"As long as NATO remains a military and political alliance, this will raise a certain lack of understanding and acceptance in Russia," he said. "It will take a lot of work to establish a trusting partnership between Moscow and

S.C. Steller

Turkish tanks continue crossing into Iraq

HABUR, Turkey - Armored

personnel carriers, trucks equipped

with heavy machine guns and oil

tankers streamed across the border

to northern Iraq yesterday as back

up for Turkish soldiers pursuing

It was the second day of the offen-

sive troops, tanks and jets launched across the border against Turkish

Kurdish rebels seeking autonomy.

The rebels are members of the

The official Anatolia news

agency said 30 PKK guerrillas

were killed in clashes near the bor-

der since the start of the offensive.

The dispatch said rebels were flee-

In Thursday's air raids, Turkish

jets bombed five PKK camps In

Sinat, Hakurk, Zap, Zeli and

F-4 jets from two southeastern

Turkish bases struck camps of the separatist PKK while US-made

Cobra helicopters continued the

There was no word of any casu-

alnes on the Turkish side, but fight-

ing was continuing and the toll was

The incursion — the biggest in.

ing towards the Iranian border.

Haftanin, Anatolia said.

assault on rebel units.

expected to rise.

Kurdistan Workers Party, PKK.

Kurdish guetrillas.

two years and involving at least 10,000 troops - was carried out under a "news blackout" with journalists barred from the region and film and mobile telephones confiscated by Iraqi Kurds supporting the attack.

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11

"You will not get in today," a senior Turkish commander told reporters at the Habur border crossing, which was sealed to civilian traffic before the attack.

With reporters barred from the immediate area it was impossible to confirm the scope of the Turkish thrust

Soldiers at Habur, the main commercial entry point, said the army had established a second crossing further to the east to speed up the movement of men and machines over the border.

Anatolian said troops had also begun a big assault around the mountains to the west, towards Iraq's borders with Syria.

Defense Minister Turhan six-week incursion in 1995 was a "humanitarian mission" to protect Iraqi Kurds from the PKK. (Agencies)

(\mathbf{S}) Sheraton TEL AVIV

The Management and Staff deeply mourn the passing of

EMILIO BRUNS

co-owner of the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel and Towers

We extend our deepest condolences to his beloved wife, Daniela Bruns

NO TELEPHONE SUBMISSIONS

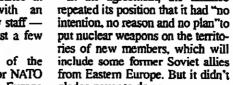
Western alliance. Yeltsin, in a telephone call to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, described the accord as "a really major step aimed at more stability in Europe and the world overall, the Kremlin said in a statement. Sometime this summer, the Russians will open an office at

NATO headquarters with an ambassador and a military staff ---something unthinkable just a few years ago. With the dissolution of the

Warsaw Pact and plans for NATO expansion into Eastern Europe plunging ahead. Moscow has bowed to the inevitable and cut the best deal it could. That deal is a 16-page document

called the Founding Act on Mutual Relations, Cooperation and Security between NATO and the Russian Federation. It is expected to be approved by NATO member governments and Russian

President Boris Yeltsin in the next few days. President Clinton called the accord "a historic step to a peace-



NEWSinFOCUS

The Jerusalem Post Friday, May 16, 1997

Warding off the evil eye

Ehud Barak stole the party establishment right from underneath Shimon Peres, but instead of basking in the glow of his triumph, the retired general is wary of the price of victory, Sarah Honig writes

fter the dramatic show-A down with Shimon Peres at the Labor Party condown with Shimon Peres vention in Tel Aviv on Tuesday night, leadership front-runner Ehud Barak summoned his closest allies and instructed them to make sure he was not applauded too loudly the next day when he entered the auditorium. The request raised no eye-brows. One of the convention

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participants later explained that Barak was acting much like an old superstitious shtetl dweller afraid of the svil eye from those who begrudge his success. Barak had managed to do the

near-impossible by tronncing Peres, the man who had dominated the Labor Party machine for two decades.

Even when the party leadership was carrowly wrested from him by the late Yitzhak Rahin, Peres never slipped from the Labor helm. He won every internal party struggle against Rahin, except for the No. 1 slot.

Barak stole the party establishment right from underneath Peres, but is wary of the price of victory.

Barak had suspected from the outset that Peres wanted the party presidency not because he craved prestige, but as a last-ditch effort to hang on to party leadership. Peres, after all, had already tried other schemes, such as the oatiooal unity nonstarter and a push for early elections.

Thus wheo Barak foiled Peres's final attempt to become co-leader, he could not sit back and savor his success. He was frightened by his own triumph. Indeed, Barak's sworn foe, MK Haim Ramon, warned him that a

as the villain just three weeks before the primary.

This despite the fact that Peres went to a lot of trouble to make it appear that he is not nettled in the least. In an amazing display of aplomb, he sought to claim that no offense was taken. "I didn't need the president title, I didn't even seek it. It wasn't my initiative. Friends came up with the idea and worked for it and I couldn't let them down. I couldo't tell them that they toiled for noth-

ing. "The appointment was not

Barak stipulated that there are to be no cheers, chants or anything

which could be

construed as

glee - never

mind gloating -

in the after-

math of the

savage beating

have real enemies, and nothing Peres endured. Barak saw and heard at the coovention could induce him to lower his guard. For instance, Barak could not lose sight of Peres's post-cooveotion schedimportant. All I am concerned aboot is that time is running out fast for the peace process. We

party.

sorcerer.

The first item on the itinerary of the tireless Peres, right after

relations in the party now, no

side trusts the other's sincerity. As the first sitting of the

Labor convention wound down,

whispers abounded, shadows

lurked in corners, and, while

everyone strove to appear in

talk softly, all the protagonists

were careful to earry hig sticks

Barak had to cautiously pre-

pare for any contingency and

that meant meticulous care not

to look too happy, or popular,

But why? It would appear

from the ignominious defeat Peres suffered that he is a polit-

ical goner. Moreover, just as

Barak strove to lower the pro-

file of his victory, Peres took

pains to lower expectations of

his hitter vengeance. He liberal-

ly granted interviews to politi-

cal reporters in which he

seemed to let hygones he

bygones, vowing not to eoter

the Netanyahn government on

his own, not to holt Lahor and

not to set up a breakaway peace

On the face of it, Barak has

nothing to fear, yet he is a con-firmed believer in Peres's oear-

mythical powers as a political

Even among his most ardeot boosters, Barak has the reputa-

tion of being a political para-ooid. But, as the old adage

admits, eveo some paranoids

and definitely not mean.

inst in case.



alarm bells for Barak by maintaining that Ramon can still challenge Barak a year before elections, when the party will have to ratify his candidacy for prime minister

Ramon told Barak that it won't be over on June 3 and that he will be waiting to take him on

Significantly, Peres cheerfully chimed in, saying Ramon was "perfectly right hecause in a democracy a leader must always face challenges."

Around Barak, Ramon is regarded as a younger, less istute version of Peres who may take more reckless risks. Like Peres, Ramon has little to lose. He expects Barak to wreak vengeance oo all his political antagonists as of June 4

Ramon was pitted against Barak from the day Barak entered politics. They hickered hitterly during last May's clec-

> Barak was acting much like an old superstitious shteti dweller afraid of the evil eye from those who begrudge his success

tion campaign, when they comanaged it, aod then spent much energy blaming each other for the debacle.

If Barak wins the primary, as appears more likely oow than ever, then Ramoo could turn very desperate.

The speculation io the harassed Barak camp now is that Peres may act via the Ramoo proxy.

wounded Peres is far more dan gerous than Peres wearing the untried party president hat.

This is why Barak concluded that the convectioo's second day ard the entire run-up to the June 3 leadership primary would have to be an anti-climax Tuesday's sensation. to Shrewdly, Barak calculated that now is the time to appear to

evince sensitivity, which is why he ordered his lieutenaots to send word down to the ranks oot to applaud him too enthusiastically. He also stipulated that there are to be no cheers, chants, or anything which could be construed as glee - never mind gloating - io the aftermath of the savage heating Peres cadured. Barak can't afford to be cast

tioos. That is all that motivates ... time, to avoid, Barak's closing me now and I will work relentlessly to save the peace process for my grandchildren and for all children. For that I need no title, no liceose, no permission from anyone. I am a free man."

IT WAS that declaration of independence that all but threw the Barak camp into a tizzy. Nothing in the Labor Party these days is what it appears.

Rather than having a soothing effect, Peres's words only heightened Barak's ever-present wariness. While Barak may have expressed his confidence that Peres will not turn against him and assured Peres that his political career will not be over hy June 3, given the nature of

must save it for future genera. . . be left the convention (just in speech), was no less than 3 meetiog with Yasser Arafat under Socialist International anspices. Several sources close to Barak

say he harbors no delusions of a letup in Peres's continued hyperactivity. Peres, whn can no longer elaim to lead a party, much less a government, obviously has no intention of withdrawing from public life and devoting himself to his memours.

If more indications were needed they came from Peres's loyal sidekick MK Dalia Itzik party. (who nevertheless supports Barak's primary hid). Itzik had warned everyone just after Peres's humiliating rout that the



Ehod Barak embraces a supporter at this week's political convention.

delegates had freed him of all she insisted that "Peres did not fetters which hind him to the Even after he sought to reas-

sore all and sundry that he "reaches no decisious iu moments of anger or agitation."

say the last word. Not everything has been heard from him yet. Things will happen." She emphasized that she

knows what she is talking about. She also said this to

Barak, who was so conciliatory as to phone and congratulate her on her speech to the convention in which she hitterly attacked Barak.

(Israci Sun)

If Itzik's input were not enough, Ramon rang more

If Peres does oot form a new party, perhaps Ramoo will do it on his behalf.

A senior source in Barak's inner sanctum also suggested that oot much trust should be placed on Peres's denials that he would consider joining the Likud government.

The source ooted that such a quasi-national unity move is not even feasible now. The minute it does become a more realistic optioo, however, Peres will be the first to jump on the bandwagoo, the source said."

Bnt Peres need not go to such lengths to hurt Barak, stressed the source. Peres can get his own hack hy just bad-mouthing Barak and giving the Likud choice gootes to use against Barak in the 2000 elections.





Friday, May 16, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

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Democracy: Iranian style

Social issues, rather than cries of death to Israel and America, have dominated the campaigning for next week's Iranian elections, Steve Rodan reports

The writer is a 21-year-old Iranian student who hardly remembers Ayatallah Rubollah Khomeini. It is a plaiotive appeal to the Islamic regime that rose from the ashes of the 1978 revolution, an Iranian versinn of the rock anthem "My Generation." "The suspicinn and contempt is growing daily," the student, whn remains anonymous, writes in a recent letter to the daily Salam newspaper. "Every minute we uncover more examples of friction and tension, par-ticularly in the university. They are blaming the students, their ideas and even their bad intentions. Everything is placed nn the back of my generation that today studies in the university. The gap that separates my generation from that of the revolution is greater than the gap between my [much older] sister and brother and my parents.

In a country of 63 million where more than balf of the population was born after the overthrow of the shah and where the voting age is 15, this student's letter represents a view that even the militant regime in Teheran can't ignore. And in the last days of the current presidential campaign, which ends with elections next Friday, the candidates are focusing on the social fabric of Iran.

Many of the issues resemble those in many democracies - corruption, unemployment, inequality and ioflation. There is little mention of "Death to America" or "Death to Israel," twn of the most common rallying cries of the Islamic revolution.

But being an Islamic republic brings another set of issues, unique to Iran, such as whether women should be allowed to ride bicycles,

The first thing to remember about these elections is that they're largely about domestic issues," says Patrick Clawson, a lecturer at Washington's National Defense University. "The biggest difference between the two teading candidates is about culture." David Menashri, head of the Middle East and African History department and senior research fellow at Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center for Middle East

there is a presidential election at all. The practice began after the death of Khomeini in 1989 and has cononued every four years. President Hashemi Rafsanjani has already served the maximum two four-year terms permitted under Iran's constitution.

"The mast important thing about these elections is that they are coming out in time," says Menashri, who next week will lecture an Iran in the inauguration nf a chair fnr modern Iranian studies at Tel Aviv University. sponsored by Iranian entrepre-neur Parviz Nazarian. "This is the most important sign of stability. Rafsanjani wanted to be president again but the constitution said you can't be president for a third term and he obeyed." Democracy Iranian-style is built

on Islamic consensus. Not everynne can run for president or any public office in Iran. The Council of Guardians, a body dominated by clerics, must approve each candidate. The council disquali-fied about 40 percent of last year's 5,000 entries in parliamentary elections.

In the last presidential elections in 1993, the council approved three out of 100 would-be candidates. The couocil does not explaio its reason for disqualifica-

This election - in which a candidate must win 50 percent of the vote to avoid a second round -

No candidate would dare discuss the huge Iranian nonconventional arms program, the pros and cons of the Arab-Israeli péace talks, the Iranian backing of terrorism, or even the wisdom of the death warrant on author Salman Rushdie.

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His

chief opposeot

has four entries. The frontrunner Mohammad Khatami, a former is Ali Akbar Nateg-Noori, the minister of Islamic guidance who speaker of parliameot. He has the was forced to resign for his liberal treatment of the press and arts. endorsement of the Society of Like Nateq-Noori, Khatami is a Combatant Clergy, a group he heads, dominated by conservative cleric, but unlike him, the former

socialist-minded clergy and the The assessment is that this university students. He is regardendorsement means he could use ed as being close to Rafsanjani. Mohammed Mobammadi the nationwide network of Rcyshahri is also a cleric. He repmosques to bring out the vote. resents the radical wing and he is is regarded as a threat to Nateq-Noori's efforts to tap the religious constituency. He is most closely identified with the "Death to America and Israel" wing of the electorate. Reza Zavarei, another cleric,

was deputy interior minister. He is regarded as one of Iran's most prominent extremists. His claim to fame was as bead of Kasser prison, where so-called "enemies of the revolution" were jailed.

Non-clerics and liberals were disqualified by the Council of Guardians. One of them was Ibrahim Yazdi, an Eoglish-speaking former foreign minister who once had a green card and lived in Texas. He had advocated normal relations with America and the creation of a democratic atmospbere in Iran.

limited. No candidate, for example, would dare discuss the buge Iranian noncooveotional arms program, the pros and cons of the Arab-Israeli peace talks, the Iranian backing of terrorism, or even the wisdom of the death warrant on author Salman Rushdie. But the consequeoces of Iranian policy are being dis-

Most of these consequences have been economic. Parliament speaker Nateq-Noori drives in a bullet-proof Mercedes, but most Iranians can't make ends meet. Many of these Iranians don't eojoy the profits of the Organization of the Oppressed, eoĵoy

headed by Mubsen Rafiqdust, which invests an estimated \$120 million in Western ; banks ... Rafiqdust's brother, Morteza, is in jail charged with embezzling about \$400 million of these funds. Iran has improved its finances from the dark days of 1993. It has rescheduled \$10 billion in debt. But 25 percent of oil revenues,

are allo

dent will face strict limitations, perhaps even greater than those Rafsanjani faced. Looking over his shoulder will be Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the nation's spiritual leader and bearer of the revolutionary torch. Since 1993, be has eclipsed Rafsanjani as the most powerful man in Iran, insisting on supporting terrorism - such as the killing of dissidents despite the diplomatic cost. In April, a Berlin ourt implicated K amenei and

bicycles? That's one of the issues in next week's elections. Nateq-Noori road. Now. there isn't much difference for and and US." The Dayan Center's...

Menashri agrees. He says irin has become a nation that has calulated its risks. "Until now, it has witherawn from almost all of its ideological

creed," he says. "The queston is whether it will also steer away from its anti-Israeli and anti-American attitude. One way of looking is that it already has

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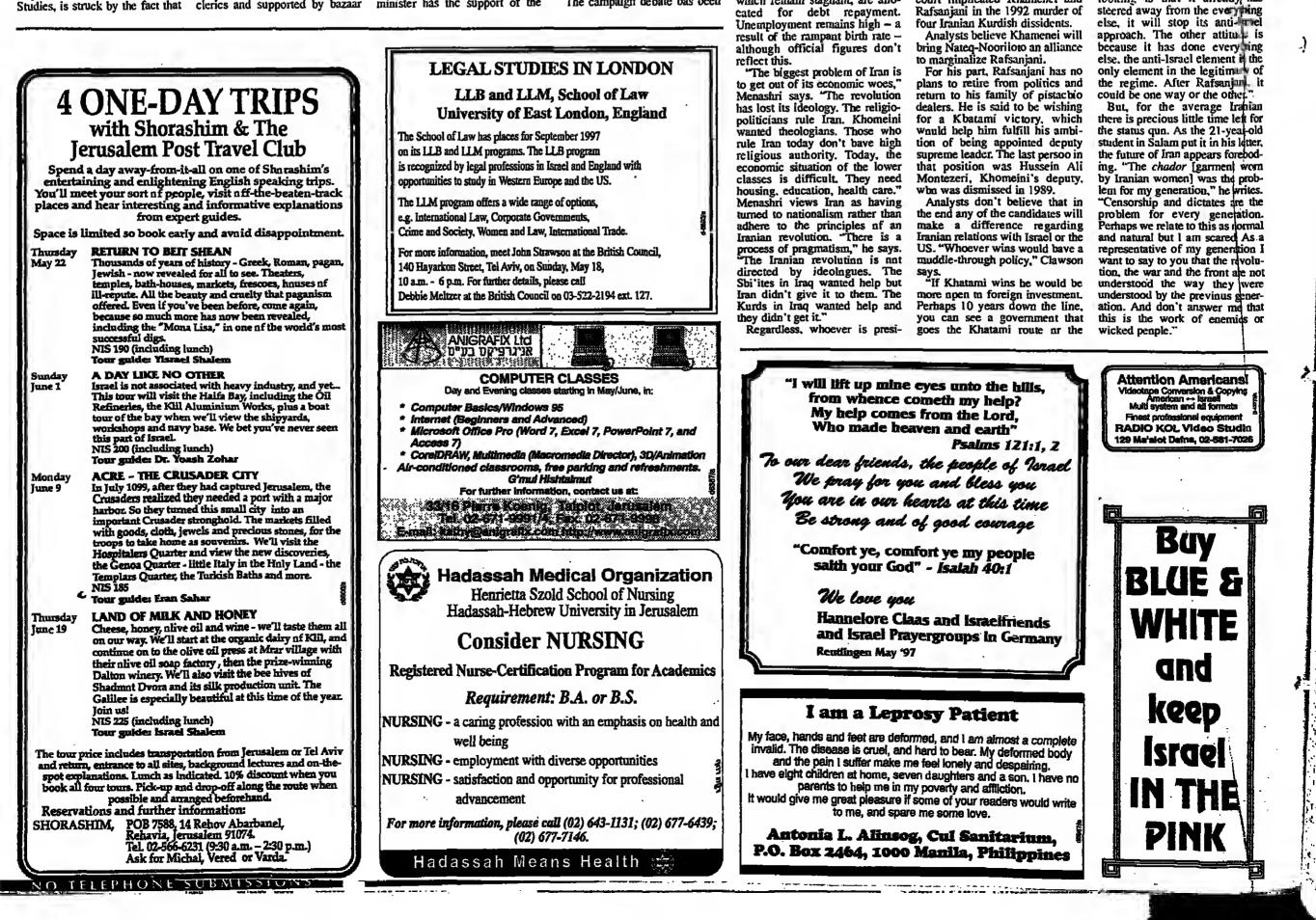
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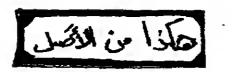
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Iranian women can shoot, but should they be allowed in ride

Studies, is struck by the fact that clerics and supported by bazaar minister has the support of the





The Company

FEATURES

Fears for the future

As the 20th century draws to a close, Elie Wiesel predicts that within a few years even sympathizers will tire of hearing about the Holocaust. Elli Wohigelernter reports

The enormnus worldwide increase in Holocaust awareness over the last 10 years is a direct result of history - "with a capital 'H'" - trying to cleanse itself of its own hile as the century comes to a close, says writer, professnr, Nobel laureate and Hnlocaust survivor Elic Wiesel.

"All the dirt of the 20th century is coming up," he says, "as if history wants in purge itself of its demons, nf its phantnm, nf its nightmare. And also because the generation of the survivors ls dying out, and this is the last chance, the last grasp to see a living survivor - 'I was there, I was there.

"It's true, there isn't a day without having at least one story in The New York Times related to the Hnlocaust. It's a way of making up for all the times that they didn't speak about it in the press when the Holocaust was happening."

The result of so much media attention, Wiesel says, is a backlash of antisemitism, with charges from the likes of Louis Farrakhan that Jews are obsessed with the tnpic. "It means that not only did the Jews suffer, they dare to speak of their suffering - they accuse us of speaking of suffering, as if we wanted to suffer," he says, in an interview this week with The Jerusalem Post.

Interest in the Holocaust over the past year has taken a specific focus: the tons of gold and millions of dollars that Nazi Germany shipped to Switzerland - much of it coming from Jewish inmates of concentration camps - and Jewish efforts to retrieve that gold.

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ry. "Antisemitism will remain, hnt I think that in the year 2000, or sometime thereafter, there will be a change in awareness with regard to the Holocaust. There will be a day when good friends of ours will come and say, 'Listen, ynn know we are with you. But, it's enough. Our children cannot take it anymore. It'a the year 2000 - the century is over, the millenninm is over give us a chance nnw to breathe. Once a year we will come and cry with you nn Ynm Hashoah. We will dn everything. But we

will shift with the passing centu-

cannot take it every day.' "And ynu know something? We are not equipped to answer. What dn you answer to that? And that's the good people. If it's had people, I couldn't care less. Now it's Farrakhan. But good people will say, 'Enough. There are other things nnw, there are nther issues, nther events, nther ohligations, other prinrities - we cannot gn on like that every day.' Becanse the mnment ynn say 'Holocanst' everything else fades away." As for Holocaust deniers, Wiesel maintains that fighting them only helps their canse, and that we shouldn't attach any importance to them, or grant them the dignity of a debate.

These are people who are mentally ill, morally ill," he says. "But the books they publish? Let them, who cares. I am not afraid of them." The real problem with deniers. Wiesel says, is the Internet, and how it's used to spread lies and hate, especially to young people. He proposes holding a closed-door meeting with the best legal minds, as well as philosophers, "The Swiss press at one point tn discuss the issue of free became antisemitic. There was a speech, and what should be done

cartoon in the Swiss papers, "Of all the things, this is the showing the Kotel Hama'aravi



Elie Weisel: When I want to smile I think of children. When I want to weep I think of children. It's always children. (Bryan McBurney)

have money, they have tremendous amounts of money," he warns. The close of the 20th century is also bringing with it a worldwide rise in fanaticism, which

Wiesel says is his main concern now.

AS HE sits in the lobhy of the King David Hotel, his vnice trails nff, and you sense he is thinking back on his own personal experience with fanaticism and power. Barn in Sighet, Transylvania, in 1928, Wicsel

tial questinns, were all in French." It remained his language of expressing.

"I can teach in English, and write an article in Hebrew, but not books, no. Books come from a different zone." As a child, Wiesel was fluent

"There will be a day when good friends of ours will come and say: 'Listen, you know we are with you. But, it's enough. It's the year 2000 ... There are other things now, there are other issues."

"Intolerance, higotry - it's was transported to Auschwitz in Yiddish, which his family worse than ever. In every religion, hy the way. And ethnicaly? What is Bosnia? Fanaticism. ter Tzipora died there, while his age of 12, he started to learn What is Rwanda? Fanaticism. two nlder sisters survived.

with his family when he was 15. spoke at home, as well as His mother and six-year-old sis- Huogarian and Romanian. At the Hebrew.

"My father had hrought a teacher [to Sighet], and he had a book on dikduk [Hebrew grammar] and I wanted to huy it, hut I couldn't - whn in Sighet had books like that? Sn I learned the whole book hy heart. Big deal, for a yeshiva bochur who studies pages hy heart - what's another hook? I can quote it today, the whnle book, because I learned it hy heart. That's how I learned modern Hebrew, and that helped me later on. I thank my father." Where it helped was getting a joh. Wiesel first came to Israel in 1949, as a poor French journalist; he went back as an Israeli correspondent for Yediot Aharonot. He tries to come here now once a year, although his last trip was a year and a half

ago. "I came here fnr [prime minister Yitzhak] Rahin's fineral. [US President Bill] Clinton took me in his plane. It was a special experience. Clintnn's a good president for us, a very good president."

Peace Prize in 1986. From that money he estab-

lished the Wiesel Foundation for Humanity. Its current project is establishing centers in Israel for Ethiopian children. "This is something which is

very moving to me. First [comes] children. For me, Jewish children can dn with me whatever they want. When 1 want to smile I think of children, when I want th weep I think hf children. It's always children. And Ethinpian children - they are sn beautiful and sn hright, and they need [so much]. Wiesel doesn't speak of his many awards; notwithstanding all the honor bestowed in his lifetime, Wiesel, first and foremost besides being a Holocaust survivnr, is a writer.

HE ACKNOWLEDGES that of the 35 books he has written, the two that were most important historically were his first, Night, published in French in 1958, and The Jews of Silence, published in English in 1966.

"Night, because it opened up something, and Jews of Silence, because it did something." Night, he says, "ereated a certain awareness amnng ynnng peo-ple," while Jews of Silence sparked the [Snviet Jewry] movement - though nnt immediately. At that time I would go from one Jewish convention to the other, and they didn't want in hear [about] it. Just as they didn't want to hear about the Holocaust at the beginning."

Asked if from all his books . he's proudest of these two, Wiesel says, "I'm not proud of either. Really, it's not a matter of pride. I would say that I identify with [them] more.. But look, I identify with all of my hooks. I wonldn't have written any if I hadn't.

"I have no urge to publish, I have the nrge to write. Sometimes I keep manuscripts in my drawers for years. If I write I'm at peace with it, I wouldn't change a single book. But certain hooks stand out, and Night stands out, and Jews of Silence." He's working on another novel, a book oo the Prophets, and the third volume of his memoirs. Of the first volome, which was published in English last year, Wiesel says,

"no other book of mine has

received such an amazing recep-

tion all over the wnrld." The

second volume will be published

[Western Wall] as gold hullion, and a lew worshiping it. Can you imagine? The old antisemitic archetypes are coming back, that we lews want nothing hut money - they forget that this is not their money, hut Jewish mouey - 'they want mooey, all they want is money,' that was the impression. I made a statement shout it, saying the main thing is to not make collective judgments [against the Swiss]. I don't believe in callective guilt. But look, they have a problem. Can you imagine - the Kotel Hann'aravi in guld hullion?" The heightened attention in the Holocaust now, Wiesel fears,

most important. They are well organized, and they have fanaticism, religious fanaticism tremendous amounts of money." Wiesel relates the story of how on the day he received his Nobel Peace Prize he was given an extra cordon nf security guards - he couldn't understand why until he learned later that the deniers were staging a demonstration against him while the ceremony was taking place.

"In the street. there were deniers, dozens and dozens of deniers, who came from all over Europe. That means that somebody organized them, somebody paid for their tickets, somehody gnt them hntel rooms - they

"It's ethnic fanaticism, racist - and in our own community, too. It's happening to the whnle world, but as always, what happens to the world happens to us,

hut more so." The worst part of it, he says, is that "when you comhine fanaticism and power, then it's dangerous. Fanaticism itself is bad it's bad for culture, it's bad for civilization, it's had fnr art, it's . had for humanity - but when

yon comhine fanaticism with power, especially lately, with nuclear power, and hacteriological weapons, as could very well happen

Wiesel and his father were later transported to Buchenwald, where his father died.

After the war he went to live in France, though he spoke no French.

"Not a single word," he recalls. "But I needed that language at that time - I suffered in Hungarian, I suffered in Romanian, I suffered in Yiddish. But not in French. Frénch was

something totally new. "And 1 needed something totally new. And that's why I hegan studying in French. The deep experiences, intellectually, were all in French. The first questions nne asks, the existen-

"I had a friend, Yerahmiel was his name, he was killed in the Holocaust. The twn nf us spoke modern Hehrew one hour a day. That was my father's deal with. me. At that time I only studied limudei kodesh [religinus studics], I couldn't care less about secular studies. One month hefore the exams, because ynu had to take them, I would quickly swallow up everything I had in knnw about mathematics, geography and so forth. I passed the. exam, forgat immediately the US Congressinnal Gnld everything, and went hack to limudei kodesh. Sn my father Medal, the Medal of Liberty-Award, the rank of Grand said, OK, hut one hour a day you Officer in the French Legion of must study modern Hebrew. Honor, and of enurse, the Nubel

Is there anything left to Wiesel was here this week to accnmplish? "Oh, I haven't accomplished receive the first Guardian nf Zion award frnm Bar-Ilan University's Rennert Center for anything. I'm serious. I've written many books, hut deep, deep Jerusalem Studies, annther in a down I know I haven't even lnng list nf awards that he has begun. I have written so many received including the US Presidential Medal of Freedom, things - plays, cantatas, novels,

in English ocxt year.

jects. "Nevertheless, I have the feeling I haven't even begun. One day I will begin, but I haven't begun vet."

essays - and about so many sub-

On his own merits

MK Avraham Poraz, the sole representative of the Shinui party in the Knesset, is trying to woo middle-class, secular liberals away from Meretz, Liat Collins writes

Politics is a lonely husiness, but for MK Avraham Poraz the Knesset is lonelier than for most Since Poraz's Shinui party refused to merge with Meretz some six months ago, he has been left as the sole representative of his faction in the House. Although he still works under the auspices of Meretz, his relationship towards them is similar to that of Gesher to Likud. He plans to run in the next elections as Shinni, completely independent of Meretz, hut, he admits, "It's tough." Poraz's platform - and much of

his parliamentary work - focuses on the iniddle class, "which is the class that usually gets overlooked. The rich look after their own and verybody looks put for the rights of the poor but if you are strug-ling along in the middle, nobody otices although the middle class the backbone of the economy." The split from Meretz was over conomic issues/ "I am a liberal," praz states categorically. Meretz was founded in 1992, a

nenger of three parties - the Quizens' Rights Mnvement, Sinni and Mapam - "which had both a common denominator and lage differences. The common deponinator was their support of the peace process and the objections to religious coercion but there were huge differences in the socieconomic area. Shinui is libenit-owards-capitalist whereas the CRM and particularly Mapam

are strikingly socialist." On the peace process, be says, "I have dovish political views, and generally seek compromise. I support Oslo and I supported Rabin and Peres. I am very scared that Binyamin Netanyahu's government could bring us to war with the Arah world and put IDF tanks into Arab villages in the territories." Poraz favors an independent Palestinian state. "It should have a limited army. On Jerusalem, we need to find a solution. [Labor MK] Yossi Beilin's direction of an Arah capital around Abn Dis outside Jerusalem municipal borders is not a bad one."

Poraz's party will wark on attracting followers over socioeconomic issues more than ideological ones, Poraz says. Particularly today in the age of direct elections when you can split your vote between party and premier, there is room for a significant liberal party in favor of freemarket economy, which will make an effort to cut state expenditure and lower taxes, will fight for human rights and which will be politically moderate. This basis exists in Shinui."

He refuses to disclose how many members Shinui actually has after the split, but says that two-thirds of Shimi's council stayed with the party and only a third moved to Meretz. "I want it to expand to include other liberal groups which today have no address. This includes people not acrive in poli-



Avraham Poraz

tics today like academics and people in white-collar professions." MK Annon Rubinstein, a founder of Shinui whn originally encouraged Poraz to join it, decided to stick with Meretz. "I believe that he will also find it difficult with Meretz. I don't know if he wants to run again or not, but if he does it will not be easy for him," says Poraz.

classes has always been evident. In the most recent budget, this was seen in his opposition to the plan

to cut child benefits for the first and second child. "What would that mean? Who has two children? The middle class. Who has four and more? The poor." (He is the

(Isaac Harari)

married father of two.) Another of his ongoing struggles has been to equalize the rights between salaried employees and. the self-employed. It's a mistake to believe that all self-employed are rich and all salaried employees poor. An MK is salaried, a shoe repairman and small store owner might be self-employed. For some

reason one pays less income tax than the other. It's discriminatory," he says. "Some things we've managed to rectify, like the way the self-employed did not have a taxfree advanced study fund."

Nnt all of his fights have been popular. Poraz opposed raising the minimum wage, calling it "a cer-tain recipe for uncmployment, particularly in places like the tex-tile industry which has to compete with the cheap labor force of the third world and clewhere."

A lawyer by profession, Poraz, 52, has been in the Knesset since 1988. During his career, be has been a prolific parliamentarian, producing some 40 private mem-ber's bills. He is particularly proud of two: the country's first Anti-Cruelty to Animals Law and a parallel law restricting experiments on animals. The anti-cruelty law raised the possible sentence for offenders to three years in prison and for the first time allowed animal welfare groups, along with the police, to confiscate an abused animal.

"We established the norm that it is a criminal offense in abuse animals. I see that as a moral issue and an important recognition of the fact that a civilized country treats its animals well," he says. Not all his hills have been equally successful or wellreceived. Poraz is still struggling against the religinus parties to legalize but restrict prostitution. "It's hypocritical to believe that it doesn't gn on, so the best thing to do is to at least regulate it, get it nut of private people's back-yards and nff the beaches, control the spreading of diseases, and even get them to pay taxes on the profits. Why should a hairdresser who warks hard standing on her feet all day pay taxes and a prostitute not pay?" be says, with a characteristic hint If dry humor.

See PORAZ, Page 18



Join the Jewish Historical Seminars for our in-depth Englishspeaking tour that examines the heritage that was Jewish Poland.

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Poraz's fight for the middle

FEATURES

Friday, May 16, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

Uzbekistan's Jewish renaissance



A wall painting in the Amir Temur Museum in Tashkent depicting events in the life of Amir Temur, commonly known as Tamerlane, a 14th century leader considered the spiritual and political father of Uzbekistan. (Arych Dean Cohen)

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on

Despite a renewal of Jewish tradition, economics is forcing Jews to leave this Central Asian republic, Aryen Dean Cohen reports

t was altogether fitting for a del-egation from the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations to spend Rosh Hodesh Adar II with the Jews of Uzbekistan, traditionally considered descendants of Queen Esther and Mordechai.

But unlike their illustrious ancestors, Uzbeki Jews have a benevolent ruler in President Islam Karimov, whose tolerance has spawned a Jewish renaissance in the Central Asian republic. Indeed, that very attitude has opened the door to an exodus to Israel and the US that may soon spell the end of the proud commu-

Like the kwedo, or phoenix, an Uzbeki national symbol, local Jewish tradition has emerged from the ashes of Soviet religious repression, with Jewa now free to pursue and study their religion. Antisemitism is practically nonex-istent, so it's not fear of persecution, or even Zionism, but pure economics that has most of the 28,000 remaining Jewish families waiting for a chance to leave. (The figure is based on the number who meet the criteria for immigrating under the Law of Return.)

Nonetheless, the trip provided a rare opportunity to see the efforts hy Jewish groups to rekindle yiddishkeit in Uzbekistan, and prepare its Jews for life in Israel. Meeting with the Uzbeki Jews was like discovering long-lost relatives: full of warm embraces, but also concern for their welfare. Karimov is proud that Jews have lived in Uzbekistan "from time

immemorial," a big statement in an area in which Jews have lived for almost 2,000 years. Uzbekistan's rich history is felt in ancient towns like Bukhara, with its towering medieval madrasses or Islamic schools and crumbling Mongol desert fortress. But, while the Jewish community may have a centuries-old heritage, that tradi-tion was cut off under Communism.

"Certainly, for the last 74 years, from the time the Soviet Union was in control of Central Asia, their contacts with the international Jewish community were sever-ly limited," US Amhassador Stanley Escudero explained during a briefing in Tashkent. "They simply didn't know, they didn't have the [Jewish] experience ... that you have all grown up with. And so for them, this is a very emotional time."

Those emotions were evident during every encounter, as at Or Avner Tashkent, a Habad-run Jewish day school, perhaps the only Habad institution in which a picture of the Luhavitcher rehbe has to share a wall with a portrait of Karimov. But Karimov has earned his spot hy openly encouraging the establishmeot of such schonis.

Hahad's done wonders here,

available space. largely through the generosity of a refuge from the Nazis and which local boy who made good: former Tashkent resident and now major international diamond merchant Lev Leviev. With his backing, Luhavitch workers have transformed a former factory into a beehive of Jewish learning. The 350 beaming Jewish pupils in grades I to 11 were dressed in their finest, girls with large, colored bows in their hair, boys in white shirts, some Russian-looking, some more Mongolian.

Yosef Levin, a teacher from Rehovot, explained the school, one of several Jewish day schools in the country, only opened this year, but is already filled, with two classes recently added.

every person is planning to The youngsters recited out of leave textbooks supplied

hy Jewish Agency isn't hurting his overtures to the West either. "There has never and Joint Distribution Committee, and it been, and I believe there never. was easy to feel as will he, antisemitism here in though one was in a eshiva in the US. US Congressman Gerald Nadler There was one major came away quite impressed. difference: alongside Now I understand the strategic Karimov's picture huog the words of the importance of Uzbekistan, that it Uzbeki has a very frieodly government national that is wary of Islamic fundamenanthem and a list of talism, regards the current govpresidential decrees. emment in Iran with the same Clearly, this was not kind of loathing and concern we Queens. do, and wants to develop closer And what Jewish

ties with the West and Israel. It's community would be worth its salt without dueling rabhis? At the school, we met Rahhi Ahha David

produced many great Jewish lead-ers, especially for the Lubavitch we'd traded large, ugly Soviet housing projects for long, wellkept homes on wide boulevards in this sparkling town in the hills. More Jewish day-school children greeted us at the hotel, hut the suitcases are packed here, too. "The community is totally hreak-ing up," Ilana Cooper, a doctoral student from Boston University who had heen staying with local families, explained. "It seems must do it, because I am Jewish and must live in Israel. Everyone who is Jewish leaves. I was born here and like Samarkand, hus I must go live in Israel because l think my home is there."

(Arveh Dean Cohen)

1:0

Jewish Agency emissary Simha Harkochav, 25, explained how the Agency tries to prepare the immigrants. "There are people who have been living here for 70 years and haven't learnt anything about Judaism, Israel or their history. What we're doing is trying to slowly give them a little more [information] about the Jewish nation, the State of Israel, and Hehrew." Practical information about housing and jobs is also included. "They get letters from Israel, they know what's up, but



An ally in the Moslem world

f Uzbekistan President Islam Karimov has his way, Westem and other investors won't have to go running to an atlas much longer to find out why it's in their global interests to have close relations with his emerging nation.

10

The most populous Central Asian republic. Uzbekistan has an area larger than California, and borders Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhistan and Tajikistan. Its 19.9 East," nuillion people are divided into almost 100 nationalities, including Jews who have lived there for almost 2,000 years.

Karimov means "master of his own fate" in Uzheki, hut fate has also dealt Karimov a pretty good hand with which to pursue friends

need ways to get it out of here that will not be dependent on Russia, lsrael's ties with Uzbekistan are so that there are alternatives just in case things don't go the way we would all like in

Russia," The natural gas "will enable us to think differently about the Persian Gulf and the Middle he says. "and it will guarantee energy supforever," with Israel also a potential benefi-But it's not just the

focused largely around agriculture, since the country is in the midst of retooling its vast agriculture enterprise

into more modem, moshav-like arrangements. The Foreign

farmers

Ministry's Mashav program, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, is training Uzbeki

very clear where he wants to go, which is where we and Israel want him to go, so we have to help to use him

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terminology, and Hebrew improvement, and other activities.

and who have been in Israel for no more than 33 months.

is to find employment within that time.

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Uzbekistan," he said.

movement. It was easy to understand why they had come: Samarkand is to Tashkent what Jerusalem is to Tel Aviv. Suddenly,

Two classmates at the new Or Avner day school in Tashkent, where demand to attend far exceeds

in the West. His country's central location makes it, as US Amhassador Stanley Escudero put it. "one of only a few states in the region capable of playing an anchoring role" for US interests in the region. And its huge oil, natural gas and mineral reserves, partic-ularly gold, are likely to have Western states soon standing in line to accept Karimov's offers to go steady.

"The fact is that in Central Asia and the countries in the basin of the Caspian Sea, you find the second largest concentration of hydrocarbon resources on the planet," Escudero explained. "We

ground that has Western states. President Karimov

won him many friends, and the fact that his country- with a population that is 90 percent Moslem is one of the few bastions of moderate Islam in a region aglow with religious fundamentalism makes him the kind of friend that Israel, in particular, wants to have. Uzbekistan recently upgraded

its consulate in Tel Aviv to an embassy, and Karmov, who expressed great admiration for need that oil and that gas and we Binyamin Netanyahu, is expected

new dairy equipment which they bope will triple or president's door - it's also what he says. His strong stand against ter-torism and fundamentalism has selves," explained Avi Horesh, who heads the program in Uzhekistan, along with Natan Ben-Or. "I consider this to be the jewel in the crown in the relationship," Ron said, "and I think that the people appreciate the help, assistance and knowledge we share with them." Indeed, Foreign Minister Abdulaziz Kamilov called such cooperation with Israel of crucial importance." Karimov's liberal treatment of the country's Jewish population

Michael Dror. First Secretary at the Israeli Embassy in Tashkeot, knows Karimov sees good relations with Israel and proper treatment of Uzbeki Jews as a way to win Western investment. "I'm sure he's taken that into consideration," he said, but added: "We are maintaining diplomatic relations with a Moslem country, which is already an accomplishment, since we don't have relations, especially friendly ones, with too many of them." Says Ron: "I think he's a man with a vision. In the world of today, when someone adopts a realpolitik diplomacy, I'm satisfied." - A.D.C.

Gurewitz Ashkenazi rahhi who handed out cards reading "Chief Rabbi of Central Asia." Members of the large Bukharan Jewish population pooh-poohed that idea, and follow 36year-old Rahbi Imoniel Shimanov. Tashkent is more

Ashkenazi, while Samarkand and Bukhara to the south have more Bukharan and Sephardi populations.

Acting Israeli amhassador Ilan Ron said 5,700 Uzbeki Jews had immigrated to Israel in 1995, and this had fallen to 3,922 in 1996. About 300 lo 500 leave each month now, with thousands more coming as tourists, some deciding to stay.

'Karimov's open-door policy has naturally led to many people flocking to the exits, some who are ineligible but still keep trying. "We have a problem," admits First Secretary Michael Dror. "There's a very large demand to be Jewish today. There's a wave of forged documents, and people try to pull one over on us. We're always checking very carefully and if we have any douhts, we either ask for more proof or reject the person." More latitude is permitted in

severe situations. But unity was the theme of our visit 10 the Israeli Center, a Tashkent cultural center established in 1992 hy the Israeli govemment and the Jewish Agency offering Hebrew and other information about Israel to Jews and non-Jews.After a moving pageant performed by Cultural Center members, featuring everything from opera to ballroom dancing. both hosts and guests had opened their hearts. When the program ended with Hatikva, there wasn't a dry eye in the house, a moment made larger by Escudero's later noting that "six or seven years ago, that could not possibly have happened."

Mission chairman Lester Pollak told them: "You are our brothers and sisters, and we care for you." Outside, as we boarded our hus, one of those sisters, an elderly Jewish woman, waved to us, crying into a handkerchief as she did, apparently overcome by this rare contact with other Jews. The next day we took a rickety

Uzbek Air flight to Samarkand, where some 200,000 Jews found are "a little worried, but think I

Many Uzbeki Jews left in the early '70s and in 1990 when restrictions were lifted briefly by the Communists. "They didn't know when the window of opportunity would be closed, so, without thinking, they just decided to get out of bere as soon as possi-hle," she said. The early wave of emigration created someplace for the Jews to go, to Israel or the US. Civil war in neighboring Tajikistan which led the Israeli government to airlift its Jews to Israel in 1991 didn't help calm either, although nerves. Uzbekistan is considered stable. "There's no panic anymore," Cooper said, "hut everyone saya

there's no future. There's no one for the kids to marry, they can't envisage raising another generation here. The parents say: 'We know it's going to be hard, but we're going for our children. "I don't get a sense there is strong Zionist feeling here," she

said, echoing Szyf's earlier com-ments. "Their decision on where to go - Israel or the US - is based on very practical considerations, such as where the relatives are."

Over Shahbat dinner with local Jews, we understood what she had said. Irena and Sergei were going to join their daughter, a surgeon, in New York's Rego Park. Anna and Boris said they were anxious to come to Israel to be with family, but were unsure whether Boris, a musician, would find work. They also shared another concern prominent in the minds of Uzbeki Jews: Giving up their large home, which they were having trouble selling, for a small Israeli apartment. Indeed, Shimanov told us about a large ring of keys he has belonging to local Jews who decided to leave even without sell-

ing their homes. Most immigrants are young, like Misha Izhakov, 21, who was just a few days away from aliya. He'd been to Israel twice, and "liked it." His uncles and aunts are in Israel, but he is going alone. His parents

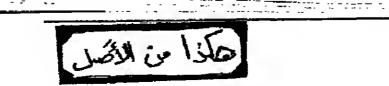
many see no future here, and make aliya," he says. Karimov wants to grant the Agency the right to publicize its events, something which had been forbidden until our visit.

There were other improvements oo display oo Shabbat morning as we followed Shimanov on foot through the Samarkand streets, where traffic was stopped for us. Services were packed in the 'new" synagogue, which had been given a fresh coat of paint, one of many repairs made at Jewish institutions by the government just prior to our arrival.

But only in the afternoon did we get a glimpse of the glory and the shame making the Jews' decision to leave so difficult, yet so necessary. Shimanov led us through back alleys to the Mahala Ghetto where the city's poorer Jews live. The ghetto includes the over 100year-old Kalintar Synagogue. named after the Jewish merchant who bought the land in what was once the market center around which the ghetto grew, and built the exquisite domed huilding still used hy a small group of worshipers.

The fine wood carving surrounding the outer part of the sanctuary testified to the devotior of the artisans who hullt it, as dic the looks oo the faces of the shabbily dressed men who welcomes us. But the horrid living conditions in the ghetto, with its open sewers and ramshackle home, made it clear that pride was one if the few possession these peope had left. Their situation crystallized the hard choice facing Uzbeki Jews: participate in rebuilding such proud institutions, an opportunity offered by the benevolent Karimov, or abandon their poverty and continue their exodus abroad. Most Uzbeki Jews are choosing

the latter option, for while they may have a benevolent eader now, there is no guarantee pat in the future be will not be replaced by one "who knew not Josep



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By AMOTZ ASA-EL

onsidering that he is still breathing, bicketing, and -in all likelihood - plotting, eutorizing Shimon Peres's 50yeld long career may be prema-

And yet the resounding vote of to confidence the opposition nore than anything else, that the pirty which had shed so many ters over his successive electoral advacles is oow through with him; somuch so that many of his former alles now treat Peres with the combination of fear and mercy which afflict some when faced with a begging leper in a Bombay siun, or a homeless AIDS victim survied on a Manhattan sidewalk. But Peres is no devil.

Yes, he suffers from a dire lack of chalisons and his pathetic attempt this week to cling onto power like a baby to his mother's nipples made him seem like a local version of Mobutu Sese Seko. But Peres is nd Mobuth. He embezzled from none of us, he lives in an unassuming apartment huilding not mirkedly different from most Ispelis', and - most importantly hehas a real conviction, which is a lo more/than can be said of most offits detractors. Peres would have liked to be a

local version of his good friend liançois Mitterrand, whose repeat-

NIEW FROM NOV

14-year presidency during which he played a decisive role in shaping a post-nationalist Eorope. But Peres is already eight years older than Mitterrand was when he finally conquered the Elysée in 1981.

Having given up on being Mitterrand Peres hoped to emulate Konrad Adenauer, who was 73 when he began an impressive 14year leadership of war-devastated West Germany. But postwar Germany ended up with that choice simply because it was difficult to find in it a leader who would be both politically seasoned and devoid of a Nazi past. Israel, fortu-nately, has no shortage of aspiring leaders, and Peres's assumption that he is in a league of his own is not shared even by his own party. Finally, the outgoing Labor leader hoped he could at least fol-low in Willy Brandt's footsteps, by enriching the post-incumbency part of his life with the title of party president. But Peres will also not be Brandt, since too many people have vivid recollections of his tendency to grah the wheel from the driver alongside him.

If anything, Peres is Israel's own Richard Nixon. Like the enigmatic career of the president so many Americans loved to hate, Peres's was that of an ambitious underdog. whose diplomatic vision, political hlunders, and ideological metamorphosis could leave almost no one indifferent.

For a decade and a half since the carly '50s, as a senior executive in the defense ministry, Peres was the strong man of Israel's budding military-industrial complex. In fact, today's quintessential peace guns was originally a super-hawk who actively supported the decision in

ed electoral defeats culminated in a '56 to wage war on Egypt and after Peres watched helplessly as even thin between the quaking tectonic the '67 war backed the establishment of Jewish settlements in the newly occupied territories. However, like Nixon, an ultimately sober Peres came to understand the geopolitical limits of military power.

HOW, WHEN, and why did this father of Israel's defenses and champion of her regional expansion become the ultra-dovish harbinger of territorial retreat and Palestinian statehood? Until now Peres has never candidly told us. In his autobiography Battling for Peace he seems to deny his views developed as events unfolded.

Yet too many Israelis recall bow, as minister of defense in the mid-'70s, Peres endorsed the establishment of Ofra, the first Israeli settlement in the densely Palestinianpopulated parts of the West Bank. In that book Peres preferred to ignore this, and wrote instead that he had always feared the neo-Messianic settlers would "elevate the Holy Land to a level that supersedes the holiness of man." Today such criticism is shared by many. In the '70s it was harbored by a select few; Peres was not among them.

Even more perplexing was Peres's assertion that in the mid-'70s he served prime minister Yitzhak Rabin "loyally." The fact is that in February '77, while he was a minister in Rabin's cabinet, Peres tried to oust Rabin in a vote in the party cancus. It was the equivalent of Al Gore running against Bill Clinton in last year's Democratic primaries.

Understandably, the people never liked this kind of finagling, and when Labor finally won an election it was after it had replaced Peres with his arch-rival Rabin.

the Histadrut, which he had pampered for 15 years, stabbed him à la Brutus and withdrew their support for him. And so, like Moses at the gates of the promised land Peres looked on as his nemesis of 18

years threw into history's dustbin Peres's huming ambinion to lead Israel into the next century.

A universally celebrated bookworm, Peres could certainly describe over a good few richly worded pages the terrible pain all this must have caused him. Instead, his autobiography grudgingly admits in one wry paragraph that he was hitter, "but bitterness is not statesmanship."

Well, now the statesmanship days are over, at least they should be, so that - to paraphrase Nixon we won't have Shimon to kick around any more.

If he wants to pluck his life story out of its Nixonian trap, Peres should make do with his past diplomatic achievements, and spend the remainder of his career nurturing a long-overdue dialogue with those parts of this society whose trust Labor repeatedly failed to win. Indeed, it was a very telling

moment when Peres metorically asked this week whether he was the one who had put and end to Labor's historic alliance with the NRP. No, it wasn't Peres, it was a boorish, short-sighted and arrogant Rabin; but who cares whose fault it was. The fact is that in the aftermath of Labor's fall from power in 1977, it repeatedly failed to wrest haredi, modern-Orthodox and working-class Israel from the Likud's firm grip.

Peres was certainly oot the sole, or even the major reason for all this, he was simply being ground

plates of a society in constant transition. And yet under his leadership Labor lost its old ability - maybe even the desire - to dialogue with domestic adversaries.

SYMBOLICALLY, PERES'S defacto ouster this week coincided with three seemingly unrelated events: The 20th anniversary of the Likud's rise to power, which falls this Saturday; the death of MK Avraham Stern, the NRP's last moderate parliameotarian; and Israel Prize winner and Kahbala scholar Yosef Dan's lamentation of secular Israel's abandonment of Judaic studies to the Orthodox and haredim among us.

When J was a child we lived across the street from then prime minister Levi Eshkol in Old Katamon. One evening loud singing burst from his living room; it was in Yiddish. At hand were some of Old Mapai's best and brightest, like Pinhas Sapir. They might not have been great singers, but, having oot only spokeo Yiddish but also usually come from the shtetl and attended prewar Europe's yeshivot, they sure possessed the tools with which to communicate with contemporary religious Israel.

Today, by contrast, when people like Haim Ramon or Ehnd Barak talk to people like Hanan Porat or Meir Porush, all they can do is engage in horse trading. When it comes to terminology, metaphors, associations, let alone beliefs, an abyss yawns between them. That abyss may eventually equal in its breadth and depth the one which lay between Arab and Jew when Peres concocted Oslo. Isn'l it worth his time just as much?



antiquity, serving as the Scots kings' coronation seat. In 1296 King Edward I brought it to London, where it lies under the coronation chair of the British kings.

As for the British - another legend says they are the original "Hebrews," on the basis of their name: the Hebrew brit/covenant, and ish/man. But that is another matter.

HARRY DAYAN of Petah Tikva asks what the connection is between the sumame Shapiro and the Jewish priestly line of nts O

church dignitary in Polish and German." The only answer I can think of is that when Polish or Austro-Hungarian clerks were banding out sumames to Jews, some candidates reported themselves as, for example, Moshe Mordechai Hakohen ("the kohen"), and, after explaining, were dubbed M.M. Kaplan. Or perhaps some of them chose the name the way, for example, some Steinbergs changed their name to Stonchill in America. I'm.sure

"Cohen" around. d noted that Kanlan is also a common sumame among Turkish Moslems, meaning "tiger" in that language, and Dayan wonders whether this has any significance regarding the Polish Kaplans. To the best of my knowledge, there is oo connection.

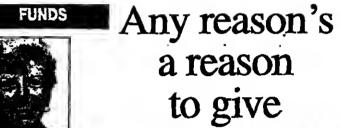
one of the 13 towns Joshua allocated to the Aaronide priests (Joshua 21 and I Chronicles 6). When David was fleeing for his life from Saul, the priests of Nov sheltered him, gave him provisions, and even gave him Goliath's sword which they had been keeping.

For this, Saul ordered his guard to kill the priests. They refused, but Saul's adviser, Doeg, undertook the task and slew all 85 priests of Nov and their families and animals, there are a few Jewish "Priestleys" formerly and razed the town (I Samuel 22),

places. A donation of \$110 was I GAVE the wrong som e for th







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Hassid bearing the fine Gaelic name a (pronounced Shawn) Fergusson. Here it those who don't

urely, everybody of Yiddish speaking

By MOSHE KOHN

teck in Boiberik he was Yankel One wicz. When he disembarked in New Yh, his cousin who had preceded him told to adopt the more Anglophonic name of Jar Gale, He agreed, but by the time his turn and the immigration clerk asked him his beine, he had forgotten and he blurted in Y Tust: "Oy vay, shoin fargessen! Woe is me, I've forgotten already!"

The clerk, a former Dundecan, delightedly exclaimed: "Sean Fergusson it is!" And thus he wrote, and Sean Fergusson it

remained. That story is apocryphal. In Israel, however, there really is a family whose forebears arrived here about six decades ago bearing a Russian name meaning "I don't remember," Niepomniashtchi.

Sean is Irish Gaelic for John, which stems from the Hebrew Yohanan. And Fergusson is Scots Gaelic meaning "son of Man Choice," which makes the Fergussons members of the Chosen People.

Add to this the legend establishing a Scottish-Jewish connection harking back to Patriarch Jacob: the Stone of Scone is the very stone on which Jacob slept and had his ladder dream at Bethel (Genesis 28). It was brought from Bethel to Scone, Scotland, in

kohen. I had written about Jewish sumames that

indicate probable or possible Aaronide pedigree. There are some obvious kohanic names: Cohen in its many forms; Katz (acronym of the Hebrew kohen tzedek, meaning "authentic kohen"); Kaplan (Polish for "clergyman"); Azoulay (acronym of the pas-sage in Leviticus 21:7, "Isha zona vahalala yikahu/They [kohanim] shall not take a harlot or a woman profaned"), borne by kohanim of Moroccan provenance; and Mazch/Mazzah (acronym of the Hebrew mi'zera Aharon Hakohen).

I also mentioned such oames as Rapaport and Shapiro in all their forms, bome by many kohanim

Dayan noted, correctly, that Shapiro/a and Spiro/a/e are assumed to derive from Speyer, the name of a German city famous in Jewish history.

There is no inherent connection between this name, or between the name Rapoport, and the Aaronide line. It is just that some of the distinguished men who first adopted these names were kohanim and they had many male descendants carrying on the names. But not all bearers of the names are of Aaronide descent. Neither are all people called Cohen or Katz, etc.

Dayan also asked why Jews should bear the name Kaplan, which "designates a

Ingrid Galili of Ganei Yehuda wonders that the bearers of some "not very kohanic" names are nevertheless Aaromides.

1 repeat oot all kohanim bear sumames indicating the fact, and not all bearers of such names are kohanim. Indeed, I have been told of a synagogue in New York whose congregants included only one kohen, and his name was Levin, and only one levi, and his name was Cohen.

Galili asks me to confirm that one of our former chief rabbis, who was a kohen, violated Halacha hy marrying a divorcee. I have never heard such a story. An Aaronide former deputy president of our Supreme Court did so. Galili also reports that she "once heard a rabbi advising the groom, a kohen [with an Asronide name] who wanted to marry a 'forbidden' woman, to change his name three times"

I'm sure that rabbi was making a joke.

I HAVE had fresh inquiries about the meaning of this column's title, "A View from Nov." It has oothing to do with the Jewish village of that name in the Golan.

Nov, in the mountains near Jerusalem, was

about a person's having three names. The correct source is Midrash Tanhuma, Vayak'hel, 1. I thank Mel Borenstein of Elkana for bringing my error to my attention. That saying tells us: You have three names - the name your parents give you, the name others call you, and the name you earn through your deeds.

IF YOU are interested in the meaning and history of names, Bar-Ilan University history professor Aaron Demsky, in charge of the university's Project for the Study of Jewish Names, is organizing the Third International Conference on Jewish Onomastics to take place July 28-30. The first two days of the conference will be at B-IU and the third at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, as part of the 12th World Congress of Jewish Studies.

Among the more than 30 scheduled speakers are David Golinkin, who is to treat the use of the mother's name in the prayer for the sick: David Lipschitz, bumorous names in the Talmud; Anita Novinsky, Christian names of the Marranos, and Edwin Lawson with Irina Glushkovskaya, naming patterns of newcomers to Israel from Russian Georgia.

(Comments can be e-mailed to me at: moshe@jpost.co.il)

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By BEVERLEE BLACK

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Jerry Nathan Knohn on he off inflyer of Jerry Nathan Knohn, Queensbury, NY – from the Dabin family, Israel. NIS 10 Esther Rosenstein, Netanya. \$1,000 From the Robr Family, Bal

Harbour, Florida, in honor of the birth-

day of Alexander Robr of New York, NY.

The Biler Fondation, Los Angeles, CA. \$200 in memory of my wife, Bernarda --Nemesio Aldoy, Cleveland, OH.

\$110 Prace Through Trath, Inc., Owings

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Schade, a Righteous Gentile - R.J.

NIS 500 Margaret Levin, Bat Yam. NIS 400 In memory of Fini Aviran, Nora Frenkel and Ida Horowitz - Smith

wish to donate.

Penah Tikwa. NIS 580 Anon.

G. LD. - M.S.

Motzkin

Mills, MD.

and a second second

TOY FUND

NIS 100 Dr. Nachum and Doris son, Ashkelon, For Shani - Tobey Charlaff

MIS 60 In honor of Ruth Toledo, with thanks - H.R., Rishon Lezion. MIS 51 From Ro'i and Neev Samuel,

Kiryat Motzkin. NIS 40 Anon., J'm.NIS_36 In memor of our beloved husband and father. Azrie

Gilda, Jean, Alan and family. In honor of the bar mitzva of Jerry Nathan Kudan of Queensbury, NY - From the Dubin family, Israel

\$500 From the Rohr Family, Bal Harbour, Florida, in honor of the birthday of Alexander Rohr of New York, NY, \$125 "Maot Hinim" money collected by the children of Temple Emanu-El

Religious School, Englewood, NJ. S100 In honor of the forthcoming mar-riage of Heinz Marx and Bea Hagelberg - Rits and Monty Kreisberg, Dehay Beach, FL.

\$80 In memory of Sima, Julene and Asperonse Haviv - Mitch Haviv. anside, NY.

SSO Rath Lawrence, Ann Arbor, MI. In bonor of the forthcoming marriage of Beatrice Hagelberg and Heinz Marx --Mitzi and Harold Schatz, Boca Raton, FL. Jeanctie Lowis, Sag Harbor, NY. \$18 In honor of the forthcoming marriage of Beatrice Hagelberg and Heinz Marx - Jack and Eleanor White, Delray

Beach, FL. \$12 In memory of my mother, Frances

Ginsburg - Wayne Ginsburg, Flushing,

Can\$15 Terence and Joanna Miller, Markham, Canada.

See GIVE, Page 18

(EF INTERNATIONAL Personal import since 1979 EUROPEAN / AMERICAN APPLIANCES INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING Olim / Tourists / Returning residents City Tower, Suite 804, 02-625-0674 Fax: 624-7617, 1-800-275-4533

Sanctifying the roots of our Jewishness Parsha: Emor

SHABBAT SHALOM



By SHLOMO RISKIN

"And God said to Moses: Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and tell them none shall be defiled for the dead among his people: but for his kin that is near to him, for his mother, and for his father " (Lev. 21:1-1)

We've just been through the part of the year which reflects the most monumental events of our century -Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day, Remembrance Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars, and independence Day. And inevitably, we are reminded that questions of Jewish idencity are complex. Who has the right to call himself a Jew? Should we go as far as to say that a Christian born to Jewish parents is Jewish regardless of his or her own commitments?

Our Torah portion of Emor deals mainly with the priesthood, emphasizing the fact that priests responsible for the preservation of Jewish life and community - are dead. However, when it comes to red from parent to child since

the priest's own parents, such con-Sinai What makes this passage strange

an individual who becomes a nazir (one who vows not to cut his hair, drink wine or come into contact with the dead) from defiling himself for anyone (Num. 6:7). Given that the sanctity of the nazir is more lenient than that of the priest since it is only temporary, logic would dictate that if the nazir is forbidden from contact with his dead parents, the priest certainly ought to be similarly forbidden.

The Sochaczower Rebbe (Rabbi Avraham Bornstein, 1839-1910) answers that the key lies in the respective sources of sanctity. The nazir derives his sanctity from a vow which he chose to make; the priest, on the other hand, achieved his sanctity by virtue of his birth. Since the priest's sanctity comes as a result of his parents, there can be no limits placed on the respect he accords them.

What is true of the priest is true for all of Israel. Just as the sanctity of the priest derives from his parents, our Jewishness stems from the fact that we were born from Jewish mothers, are descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Leah and Rachel, and are continuing the golden chain which is based upon a lifestyle transmit-

Our Sages teach that "Jews by cboice" become metaphysical descendants of the patriarchs and matriarchs, literally "born again" at the time of their conversion. Several years back, coinciding with Holocaust Remembrance Day, Tel Aviv University invited Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger - an individual who was saved from Auschwitz at the age of 14 by the Catholic Church - to address an international conference on "The Silence of God during the Holocaust." One of the most outspoken critics of the choice of speaker was the chief rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, who argued that it was the height

of insensitivity to invite a Jewish apostate to address a conference on Holocaust Remembrance Day. The chief rabbi was not condemning the cardinal per se. No one has the right to judge a tinok shenishba (a child held captive),

and even the most stringent view would oot hold him culpable for baving joined the Church to survive, or in gratinde for his rescue. But the state of Israel is rooted in symbolism, and selecting a Christian cleric - even one born to Jewish parents - as a spokesman for the Holocaust was seen by many Jews as sacrilegious and even blasphemous to the memory of the six million martyrs.

Cardinal Lustiger accepted the invitation with alacrity. "It is a fit privilege for me to speak in Israel on Yom Hashoah. After all, virtually my entire family perished in the Holocaust, and I consider myself no less a Jew than my parents and grandparents," he declared in a television interview. The response to - and antithesis

of - the cardinal is Reb Moshe Haim Tiefenbrunn, one of my most beloved congregants. He too is a Holocaust survivor, but his story is very different from the cardinal's. With the outbreak of war, he thought he was protecting his family by sending them to a small town in Galicia, Poland. Attempting to escape conscription, he himself then fled to Shanghai. At the end of the war, Reb Moshe Haim received a telegram from a cousin in Palestine report-

ing that the entire family was alive. Bursting with gratitude, Reb Moshe Haim prepared a lavish kiddush for all his friends.

Less than a month later, he was called in by the rabbi, who had just received official notification that the entire Tiefenbrunn family had actually perished; the cousin had emerged from the camps mentally deranged.

When Reb Moshe Haim left the rabbi, the disappointment, frustration and anger he felt was beyond tears. He believed he could never

smile again, never pray again. If this is what could happen in God's world, he told himself, then there is no Jodge and there is no judgment.

He removed his kippa and threw it to the ground

But then he took two steps backwards. After all, he wondered, where was his father's kippa when they killed him? And so he came to ask himself the most fateful question of his life: what value was there to the lives of his parents and grandparents if he now threw away everything they believed in and died for?

With tears coursing down his checks, he kissed the fallen kippa and replaced in on his head. He understood that, if for no other reason than to affirm the value of the lives and ideals of his ancestors, he must continue to live as a totally religious Jew.

I can personally testify to the commitment of Reb Moshe Haim. and he has been privileged, with his wonderful wife Deborah, to support many synagogues and Torah institutions while raising a family that would have made his parents and grandparents proud.

When all is said and done, Reb Moshe Haim Tiefenbruan represents the sanctity of Israel in its most profound sense.

Shabbat Shalom

tact is permitted. is that the Torah explicitly forbids

FEATURES

Friday, May 16, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

The dove in the flock of hawks

Despite his liberal views, NRP MK Avraham Stern was popular even among right-wingers, writes Dan Izenberg

ibbutz Ein Hanatziv is an ed in the Knesset for the past 10 unpretentious-looking kib-

butz situated in the Jordan Valley just south of Beit She'an. Its buildings are simple, one-story, beige-colored structures, the dining hall is nondescript and the grass lawns that alternate with the rows of housing are unmanicured. For 44 years, Ein Hanatziv was the home of Avraham Stern, the National Religious Party (NRP) MK who died earlier this week of cancer at age 62. Stern, who was born and raised in the Haifa area, was a member of the first local Bnei Akiva group, called Garin Geulim, to settle on a kibbutz.

12

His close friend for 35 years, Tali Rothschild, said this week that "if there is something called national religious Zionism, Avraham Stem personified it. He belonged to the youth movement, he fulfilled the goal of the move-ment by settling on a kibbutz and he worked on behalf of pluralism and the bringing together of Jews of different opinions."

From profiles of him drawn by friends and family, it seems that Stem was at one with the modesty and simplicity of his environment and that this, in turn, was the secret of his success as a leader of his kibbutz, the religious kibbutz movement - Hakibbutz Hadao and the NRP, which he represent-

"He wasn't the least bit pretentious." said his son. Shai, 31. the day after the funeral. "He drove a simple car and didn't own a mobile phone until he was elected to the Knesset. Whenever he needed to buy the smallest item, like a suit, he would always ask the kib-

butz for permission." Last year, Stern ran in the NRP primaries as an independent, with some help from Hakibbutz Hadao, and wound up in eighth place – high enough to win him a parlia-mentary seat. In the NRP pri-maries, each central committee member selects seven names from the list of candidates and ranks them from one to seven. No. 1 in each list receives 10 points, while No. 7 receives four points. Only 30 of the 1,050 central committee members represented Hakibbutz Hadati.

"My father checked the statistics afterwards," said Shai. "Dad wasn't the representative of a faction or head of an interest group, but he won more seventh place votes than anyone else. He received them because of his personal charm and ability to get along with others. Even the delegates from Hebron gave him seventh place though they were certain [Labor Party leader Shimon] Peres would



Avraham Stern: Friends called him a mentsch.

win the election, and Stern would try to drag the facton into his govemment

His primary victory was surpris-ing not only because he lacked a power base. He was also a moder-ate in an increasingly bawkish party which had, over the years, moved from its_long-standing political alliance with the Labor movement to a position to the right of the Likud.

His views often conflicted with those of the party hawks. headed

by MK Hanan Porat. The two clashed publicly after Stern declared that he did not rule out the possibility of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza under certain conditions.

When national religious rabbis called on soldiers to disobey orders to dismantle settlements and army bases in the territories, Stern insisted that the party explicitly declare that soldiers must obey orders. He opposed the establish-ment of an NRP "council of sages"



which, like the ones in Shas and Agudat Yisrael, would instruct

parliamentary legislators as to how they should vote. In the controversy that broke out after the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin over whether the national religious movement bore any responsibility for Yigal Amir, Stern said: "Granted, Amir is a killer and as such, is undoubtedly mentally disturbed. But we cannot claim he does not belong to us. He grew up in our midst. Bar-llan is the university of the national religious community, and we have reason to be worried. One worm can cause an entire heap of apples to rot."

DESPITE these views, Stem had excellent relations with Porat. Another hawk, MK Shaul Yahalom, with whom he engaged in fierce policy arguments during faction meetings, was one of his closest friends.

Although he looked and sounded like a political dove, relatively speaking, Stern liked to describe himself as being to the right of center. But when it came to religious issues, he was a flaming lib-

Together with other Hakibbntz Hadati ideologues, including his close friend Annon Shapira, Stern drafted a religious-secular covenant aimed at establishing rules of conduct which would assure harmony between the two. communities.

Zvi Zameret, head of Yad Ben-Zvi, who included the covenant in his report to the Higb Court of Justice on the Rehov Bar-Ilan dispute, described the document as "very bold." According to Shapira, it included the principle that laws forcing the population to obey religious strictures must be removed from the statute books. "In the long run, people will observe the Sabbath only if they want to," said Shapira.

The moderation that characterized Stern's political and religious outlook also shaped his personal

"He was a mentsch," said Rothschild. "Everyone on the kibbutz came to consult with him on every conceivable matter and he would always give them good advice in total discretion." He was also famous for preserving barmony in the kibbutz, said Rothschild. During all his years of activity

outside the kibbutz, he worked three days a week as a sales repre-sentative for the kibbutz plastics factory.

His interests ranged beyond public affairs, said Rothschild. He loved the outdoors and was an avid nature pbotographer. He also had a huge collection of Hassidic music

But above all, he was a family

GRAPEVINE Ladies of the Book

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

o I have to make a speech?" queried Reuma Weizman when she was invited to present the Book Publishers Association of Israel's Golden Book award to sixth-generation Jerusalemite Shifra Horn, whose second book, Four Mothers, has sold over 20,000 copies and is still running strong. An avid reader who takes a book

with her wherever she goes, Weizman was delighted when she was told that her only duties at the ceremony were to present the award and enjoy a cup of coffee. Weizman, who read the book, which in some respects reminded her of her childhood, said that she enjoyed it enormously.

ALSO DOING well in the book department is Michelle Mazel, wife of Israel's ambassador to Egypt Zvi Mazel. The author in the Mazel family is currently dealing with publishers in Israel, France and Romania. Her book, Stone Moon, originally written in English and published in Hebrew in 1993. is soon to appear in Romanian. Her next book, *Scuds*, publisbed in 1995, will appear in French in early 1998, and she's now working on a third novel in between cocktail receptions and other diplomatic activities. In Israel this week while her busband is attending briefings at the Foreign Ministry, Mazel is catching up with old friends and taking a break from the entertainment circuit. She and her husband hosted 1,000 guests at their Cairo residence on Independence Day, and on Pessah presided over a

Seder for 165. THE NUMBER 49 has special significance for Jerusalemites Sarah and Aharon Roth. The couple

were married in New York in early 1949, arrived soon afterwards in Israel and settled into their gracious home in the capital's German Colony on May I, 1949. A gun-runner during the War of Independence, Roth now runs trays of his wife's delicacies at the annual Independence Day get-togethers which they host in their spacious garden. This year Sarah Roth also baked a huge cake for Israel's 49th

birthday, frosted it in the national





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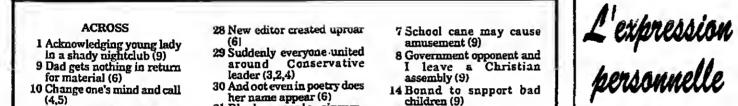
Reuma Weizman presented in Israel Golden Book awaid. (Photo Ney)

several children in tow Frank Stein, representative of the Australian Zionist Federation, siftware designer Barbara Shawand her journalist husband David; lawyer .Zvi Ehrenberg and bis wife Sandy; physician Michael Goldsmith, who took time out from his busy practice and com-miserated with fellow Aussies who asked why Israel couldn't enulate the far more effective and efficient Australian medical system; etired businessman and frequent lettersto-the-editor writer Jack Davis and his wife Betty, dentist Steven Sattler, tour guide Moshe Oberman, whose great claim to fame is riding on the roof of the Masada cable car, and clothing manufacturer Warren Fisher.

IT'S BECOME the norm at concerts and lectures to ask members of the audience to turn off their mobile phones and beepers. Religious philosopher Rabbi Mordechai Gafni was at the zenith of a making an important point when his train of thought was disrupted by the phone. It happened to be his.

AN EX-HUSBAND may be not-ing more than that until another woman catches sight of him. Elizabeth Taylor used to be quite friendly with television interviewer Barbara Walters until Walters started dating Republican Senator John Warner. Now they're not on speaking terms. Although Wamer





her name appear (6) 31 Blocks people circum-scribed by dogmatic beliefs 11 Light-fingered youngster (9) 12 Make fewer criticisms? Perfect! (9)

13 Companion over there has

17 It carries the genetic code

19 Bet it's n cardiac irregularity (7)

20 News about America is

clearly portrayed (2.5)

23 Fodder for a prudent man

27 Say what you will, it's the

way to cook a pig! (4,2,3)

21 Deceive young Billy (3)

in reverse also (3)

thick hair (6)

about 1.50(6)

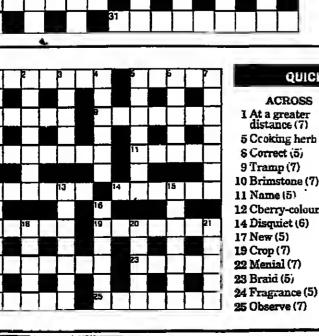
DOWN

- 2 Overdrawn-invested in costly tree (6) 3 Models ladies' fashions (6) 4 Plunder inflicts damage (6) 5 Game the archdeacon is playing (7) 6 Quickly finish getting furniture stripped down (6,3)
- children (9) 15 Peosion for all the directors (4.5) 16 Reeled around in shock (9) 17 A couple of soveraigns found in animal shelter (3) 18 Took action, but not

22 Sudden nrge to see one mala heartthrob (7) 24 A kid should be free from

- 25 Caress results in apoplexy (6)
- wine sweet wine (6)

SOLUTIONS



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QUICK CROSSWORD

7 Beseech (7) 12 Card-game (7) 15 Graceful (7) 18 Zodiac sign (5)

21 Private teacher (5)

irreversibly (3) constraint (2,4) 26 Calcium deposit in new



SITET ADSINT BITET ADSINT PENCA TRADIEDY PAGEANIA É A C L TARDENER LODAT G A E F A E BAR O D

Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS: 1 Firmer, 4 Meant, 8 Night, 9 Concise, 10 Solomon, 11 East, 12 Tis, 14 Trot, 15 Sure, 12 East, 21 Orat, 25 Hoarder, 25 Immense, 25 Award, 27 Get up, 28 Centre

DOWN: 1 Finish, 2 Regular, 3 Estimate, 4 Mond, 6 Alien, 6 Twenty, 7 Scent, 13 Escapada, 16 Radiant, 17 Moving, 19 Thief, 20 Trudge, 22 Admit, 24 Snip.



Rothschild was especially impressed with the way Stern cared for his sick mother. "For 20 years, she was completely helpless," he said. "Avraham did everything for her and bad to give up many things in his private life. He never complained. But he was repaid for that by his children when he became ill. They learned

from his example." During his 10 months in the Knesset, Stern was an active MK. He served as deputy NRP faction chairman, belonged to the Knesset Ethics Committee and was a member of the Knesset House and

Knesset Interior committees. He was very popular. A few months ago, he was elected to the panel for cboosing rabbinical court judges even though the NRP's bitter rival, Shas, had made back-room deals with other parties

All'of this - even though Stern knew be was dying. He had been operated on before the primaries. At first the doctors thought they had removed all the malignant growths, but soon discovered they were wrong. Almost exactly one year ago, on the night of his election, the entire kibbutz came to Stern's home to toast his victory. Greeting them on the lawn outside his bouse, he told the well-wishers: "It's too bad it came too late."



Close to 200 people, most of whom grew up in the US, and have

lived in Israel for 30 years and

npwards, attended. Some, like fel-

low New Yorker Harriet Weitz.

have known one or other of the

bosts since childhood. Also present

was veteran Time magazine corre-

spondent Marlin Levin, who has just completed a 450-page defini-

tive history of Hadassah to be pub-

lished by Gefen. Levin, an enthusi-

astic photographer who was here before the founding of the state, is

preparing an international traveling

exhibition of his photographs of the state in the making which is sched-uled to open in September at the Tower of David Museum in

SMALLER THAN usual, but

nonetheless a lot of fun, was the

Australian Independence Day pic-

nic at Kibbutz Kfar Etzion. Among

those who did attend - many with

Jerusalem.

thrilled about

prominently centered.

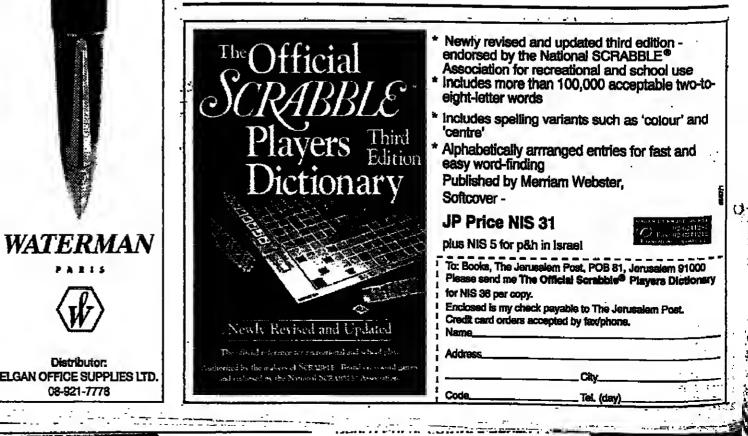


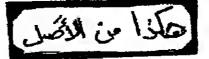
Barbara Walters dating her ex. (LP.P.A./Vered Peer)

is one of several spouses shed by Liz, she apparently expects her friends to keep their hands off even. after the marriage is over

IF A woman over 60 becomes a first time parent, the world is agog. But if a man in his seven But if a main in father, the cuibecomes a first-time tautor of the lated on his virility. Take the set of veteran actor Tony Ran who at 77 has just premiered as a dad. He likes his new role so much that he's already talking about # sequel.

AFTER SCHEDULING an appointment with her plastic surgeon for yet another improvement to her nose, Courtney Love canceled because current bean Ed Norton told her that he loved her nose just the way it is. Reconstruction has been put on hold for as long as the romance lasts.





PARIS

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BUSINESS&FINANCE

HI-TECH NEWS

By Jennifer Friedlin

Frenkel okays smartcards

Friday,

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May 16, 1997

Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel has accepted a committee's recommendation to approve the use of smartcards. The govemor's nod signals a first step toward the release of these chip-embedded cards, which serve as an electronic wallet, replacing cash and pocket change as a medium for conducting small transactions. Industry insiders expect first trials to begin toward the end of the year.

Finjan announces new security solution

Finjan Software has introduced a new low-cost Java and ActiveX security solution designed to protect small- to mediumsized husinesses accessing the Internet. The new SurfinCheck solution quickly scans Java and ActiveX applets at the gateway level to prevent loading of suspicious or hostile applets. Through SurfinCheck, security managers can control applet activities from the gateway to protect computer resources from E-mail fraud, industrial espionage, and other potential attacks.

Golan Electronics wins \$1.5m, tender

Golan Electronics, a member of the Tadiran Telecommunications Ltd. group has won a tender to supply Philtel, the cellular network operator in the Philippines, with its cellular/wireless access systems. The first stage of the project is valued at \$1.5m. The systems, which allow telecom companies to provide telephony services in regions lacking in traditional telecom infrastructure, will be installed on two islands.

IBM to OEM Check Point Firewall-1

Check Point Software Technologies, a leader in network secu-rity software, announced that IBM will OEM (original equipment manufacture) its new Check Point FireWall-I for its AIX enterprise security software suite. FireWall-1 for AIX will be available from IBM for its RS/6000 server family. The addition of FireWall-1 for AIX makes Check Point the only network security software vendor to support all major commercial server platforms, including Sun Solaris, HP-UX, Microsoft Windows NT and IBM AIX-based systems, FireWall-1 will be available from 1BM and its authorized resellers in the third guarter of 1997 as a stand-alone software product or as part of an RS/6000 Internet POWERsolution.

IBM selects Sapiens ObjectPool for system

Sapiens International announced that IBM has chosen Sapiens ObjectPool and Sapiens' consulting services to assist it in developing a major network-based solution.

IBM is using the ObjectPool to develop shipping management application components based on a rules-based development approach. The companies did not disclose the value of the purchase.

Motorola Israel plans R&D center in Jordan

In an effort to overcome the current shortage of software engineers in Israel, Motorola Israel intends to invest \$4m, in an R&D center in Jordan. Motorola Israel is presently advertising in Jordan for experts in the software development field to work at the proposed center.

Internet banking coming to Ramallah bank

InterX Technologies of Sacramento, California and Palestine

April CPI lowest in 7 years

By DAVID HARRIS

The consumer price index (CPI) for April rose by a lower-than-expected 0.7 percent to 147.9 points, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday. This is the lowest rise in the April CPI in seven years. The month is prone to accelerated retail activity due to Pessah shopping.

Government and independent economists were predicting an increase of 1% to 1.5% for the month. The annual rate of inflation for 1997 based on the first four months, where the CPI totaled 3.4%, now stands at a little over 10%. A month ago. that figure was a little short of 11%. The

Defense

Ministry

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The nation's two largest fuel

companies allegedly coordinat-

ed their bids in a tender to sup-

ply the Defense Ministry with

oil, a move MK Reuven Rivlin

(Likud) says violates cartel laws

Rivlin said he has evidence that Paz and Delek "made a

deal" to supply 4,000 tons of various oils to the ministry.

"But more than the cost is the fact that they allegedly violated

the laws against cartels and this

Rivlin submitted a query to

Defense Minister Yitzhak

Mordechai on the suspicions

"Tenders are supposed to be

secret and in the past the oil

companies bad to lower their

prices to compete." Rivlin said.

This time, they probably decid-

According to Rivlin, the oil

supplied to the Defense Ministry

over the past three years was 16

ed to coordinate their bids and

this is a criminal offense."

is much more of an cifense."

2 million.

Rivlin said.

vesterday.

government-set target for 1997 inflation of the CPI accounted for some 43% of the is between 7% and 10%. Inflation for the past 12 months was 9.4%.

Economist Ya'acov Shenin of Economic Models told Israel Radio last night that he believes annual inflation could drop to 9% to 9.5% by December. "The lowerthan-anticipated April CPI could be a readjustment from the relatively high previous two months." Shenin noted.

The major contributors to the increase in the April index were clothing and footwear, housing, education, culture and entertainment, and transport and communications. Clothing and footwear prices rose sharply by 6.2?? in April, reflecting the new season in the shops. This section

total increase last month.

Housing prices accounted for some 28.5% of the increase. There was a 0.6% rise in apartment sale prices and 1.3% for rental prices, due in part to the shekel's performance against the dollar.

Transportation and communications prices increased 0.5%. Tourist packages to foreign destinations and car rental were major contributors. Education, culture and entertainment became 0.9% more expensive. The cost of health care increased 1%, principally caused by rises in insurance premiums with health funds (2.6%) and charges to residential homes for retired people (1.3%).

These increases were offset by a drop in the fruit and vegetable component. Fresh vegetables cost 5.1% less than in the previous month. However, this was offset by a 4.4% increase in fruit prices.

The price of bousehold equipment also dropped, by 0.2%.

Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz expressed bis surprise and satisfaction that the CPI sbowed a relatively low increase.

Manufacturers Association president Dan Propper said the figures point to a slowdown in the economy and that Israel is already in recession. He also predicted unemployment reaching 8% by the end of the year.

Chelouche: Scitex losses 'as expected' **Rivlin: Oil cartel** Embattled digital print developer posts \$7.4m. quarterly loss shafting

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Scitex Corporation Ltd.'s firstquarter net losses of S7.4 million, compared to net profits of \$3.3m. in the same period one year ago, were "as expected," company CEO Yoav Chelouche said yesterday. "Although our results for the

first quarter are well below what we would consider acceptable, they are an indication that the actions we took during the second half of last year are beginning to have some impact," Chelouche said.

(Likud) says violates cartel laws and has cost the state some NIS down, from \$195m, in the first \$178.3 million in net losses in

quarter of 1996 to \$163m. this year. The market responded favor-

ably to the results, which were released in New York on Wednesday, driving the price of corrective measures.

results. Scitex announced a restructuring plan in the middle of 1996 that entailed reducing the company's workforce by 17%, shuffling and dismissing senior staff, and focusing on new products such as the ties to changes in the market-EverSmart scanner.

1996, compared to \$34.5m. in 1995,

mance was due in particular to "There were major changes in "severe difficulties" in its grapbthe technology side and the business side [of the digital printing and graphic arts mar-kets]," said Chelouche. "The issue is how quickly you make corrective measures." ic arts business, yesterday reported a continued drop in revenues from the group. Revenues from graphic arts fell to \$112m. in the first quarter of 1997 from \$142m. in the same In anticipation of poor annual

period last year. Scitex's digital video division produced revenues of \$18m. for the first quarter of 1997, a 25% increase over the same period. one year ago.

Revenues for the digital printing group were down from \$38m. in the first quarter of The company, which said that 1996 to \$33m this year.

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Shorer warns insurers not to employ cartel culprits

By DAVID HARRIS

Supervisor of Insurance Doron Shorer this week warned the six insurance companies involved in the cartel scandal that he is considering exercising his legal right to force the resignation of those convicted of price-fixing and

other crimes. Despite their conviction in March, most of the 11 senior managers are still in their posts or have been promoted.

NICE to buy

Canadian firm

Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat in her annual report and Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein. The latter informed Shorer that, in his opinion, the Treasury can enforce section 18 of the Supervision of Insurance Companies Law (1981) against the convicted managers. In order to remove the executives, Shorer

will have to alter the conditions required for an insurer's license. The condition he proposes Is that whoever is found guilty of a crime that

Shorer has received the backing of both State would affect the trustworthiness of the insurer must step down.

The professional advisory committee to the capital markets, insurance, and savings will discuss the proposal next month. Shorer has asked the companies to put forward any comments in writing no later than June 15.

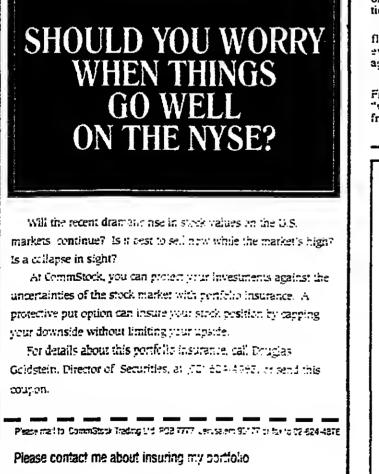
The six companies involved - Migdal, Clais Insurance, Hamagen, Sahar, Zion, and Menorah - and the Association of Insurance Companies formed an illegal cartel in 1991 and 1992.

5.375 4.250 2.125 1.000



the Nasdaq-traded stock up 3% to close at \$7.75. The upward trend continued yesterday, with the stock trading at \$8,1875 in early morning trading Scitex Corporation Ltd., the embattled maker of digital printers and video equipment that was once among Israel's most successful high-tech companies. attributed its previons difficul-

International Bank of Ramallah have announced an agreement to develop an Internet banking web site. The site, www.PlBank.cont, is on line and construction is under way to provide banking services by late July. Via the site, customers will be able to check balances, transfer funds and view statements. According to the president of InterN Technologies, the bank system satisfies all G-10 secure electronic payment and settlement standards.



hare Add 255 Prone IZV CommStock Trading Ltd. Futures, Options, and Stock Brokers (Est. 1981) Jerusalem: City Tower, 34 Ben Yehuda St. Tel. 02-524-4563; Fax. 02-525-9515 Ramal Gan: Beit Silver, 7 Abba Hillel St. Tel. 02-575-8225/27: Fex. 03-575-6990 -mail: commstock@pobox.com http://www.commstock.co.ll

lower than percent awarded this year. Paz and Delek each won half of this year's contract to supply NIS 20m. in oils.

"They usually compete against each other and new it appears they split the deal for the oil." Rivlin said. "The state jost about NIS 2m."

Mordechal's office said it had received the query, was looking into it and would inform Revin of the results of its investigation. Rivlin said the two companies flatiy denied the allegations and

even threatened legal artion against htm. Delek legal adviser Yalakty Friedgoot said all the allegations "were untrue," while officials

from Paz could not be reached.

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A Mambers and A coldwate Rockschold Group



approach to gainine a foothold in the fast-growing. SI billion callin a move aimed at making it a leading provider of systems used center logging and monitoring in the monitoring, logging and market. evaluating of telephone calls "The call-center market is just between toll-free number operastarting to pick up and the point is tors and callers, NICE Systems to position yourself in order to Ltd. of Tel Aviv signed a letter of become one of the leaders in the market," he said.

mance.

intent to acquire Canadian-based Dees Communications. David Arzi, NICE Systems' CEO, said vesterday.

According to the agreement. solutions for voice, fax and data, NICE will purchase the privately further penetrate the monitoring held company for \$8 million and market, the company said. Dees up to 500,000 ordinary shares of NICE. Communications, a Nortel Premier Business Affiliate, manu-Arzi said that the decision to buy factures monitoring solutions that

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96) Currency (deposit for:) U.S. doltar (\$250,000) Pound sterling (\$100,000) German mark (DM 200,000) 5 MONTHS 3 MONTHS 12 MONTHS 4.750 3.875 1.625 0.625 5.000 4.000 1.625 0.750 Swiss franc (SF 200,000) Yen (10 million yen) (Rates vary higher or lower than indi ed according to deposit)

Currenc U.S. dol German Pound s French Ir Japanese Duitch filo Swiss fra Swedish Norwega Oanish k Fiithish in Canadiar Australia S. Afncar Belgian fi Australia Belgian fi The acquisition will help NICE Systems, which currently develops logging and management are used to evaluate agent perfor-Jordania Egyptian ECU In addition, the acquisition will

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Date:

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provide NICE Systems with wellestablished North American-based marketing channels, analysts said. "Dees has a good marketing and sales network in North America and this means [NICE] has readyto-go marketing channels," said Aaron Katzman of the Commstock Trading Company. In 1996, NICE Systems' annual

revenues totalled \$39.8m., compared to \$21m in the previous year. Fony-three percent of the company's sales last year were in North America, rising to 49% in the first quarter of 1997.



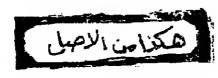
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nd sterling ch franc	5.5270 0.5902	5.6162 0.5998	5.42 0.58	5.70 0.61	5.5707
nese yen (100)	2.9036	2.9505	2.85	3.00	2,9371
th filonin	1.7688	1.7974	1.73	1.83	1.7855
s franc	2.3527	2.3907	231	2.43	2.3775
dish krona	0.4441	0.4513	0.43	0.46	0.4486
vegran krone	0.4810	0.4888	0.47	0.50	0.4840
sh krone	0.5221	0.5306	0.51	0.54	0.5271
ish mark	0.6590	0.6697	0.64	2.50	0.6640
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ralian dollar Incan rand	2.6100	2.6521 0.7610	2.56	2.69	2.6341
an franc (10)	0.9627	0.9783	0.67	0.77	0.7557
rian schilling (10)	2.8258	2.8714	2.77	1.00	2.8525
in lina (1000)	2.0158	2.0484	1.98	2.08	2.0347
anian dinar	4,7404	4.8169	4.68	5.00	4.8166
stian pound	0.9600	1.0400	0.96	1.04	1.0515
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punt	5.1522	5.2354	5.06	5.31	5.2030
nish peseta (100)	2.3544	2.3924	2.31	2.43	2.3777
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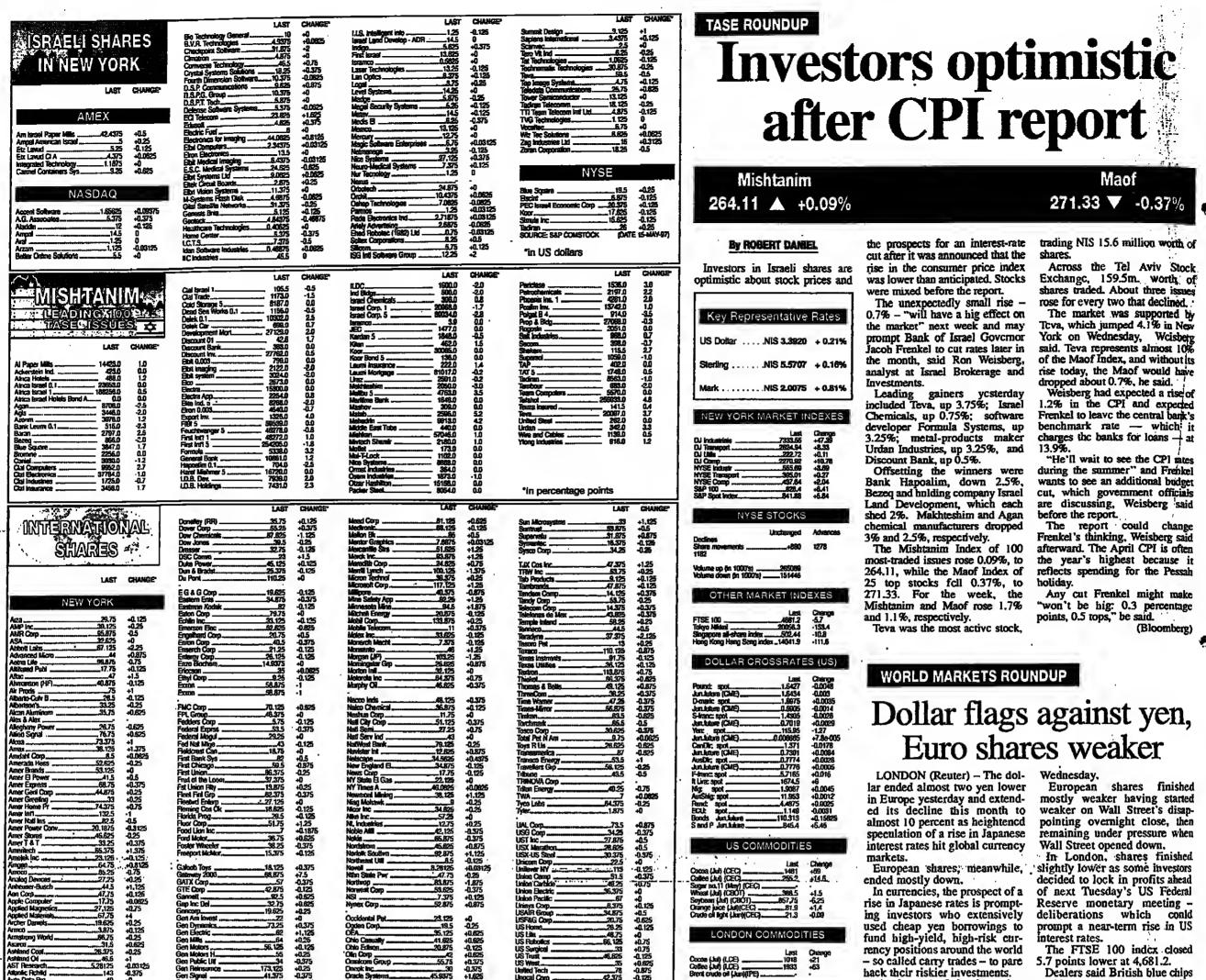
Managing Director Mr. Kevin Scott (OMI) Senior Investment Marketing Manager Wednesday, May 21 Dan Accadia Hotel, Herzliya Pituah **Registration:** 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 22 Renaissance Hotel, Jerusalem Registration: 6:30 p.m.

> Kindly R.S.V.P. to reserve a seat. Tel. 09-957-1889, 02-530-0110 Refreshments served



BUSINESS&FINANCE



	Auto Data Pro49 Autodesk39.8125 Avery Dennison39	+0 +1.25	Gen DataCommu	Oracle Systems	Unocal Corp	SPOT MARKET METALS (US)	"At the end of the day, what we're seeing is a sharp rethink
	Avnet Inc62.125 Avon Products61.5	+0 +0.125 +0.125	Georgia Pac	Outboard Marine	Varian Assoc52 +0 Viacom inc29 +0		of carry trades in risk markets
1	Balmos Corp	-0.125 -1.125	Golden W Fini	Pitti Group	Visitery 27,625 +0 Vetcan Malerials70.5 -0.25	Gold: aport347.2 -0.35 Shen: spot4.84 -0.03	which has been triggered by the sudden shift in Japanese interest
	Ball Corp27 Baltimore Gas25,75 Banc One Corp42,25	4425 4425 4425	Grace (W8R)	PPG Industries58.25 +0.375 Paccer Inc84.5 +1.0625 Paceficorp20.25 +0.125	Wechavia 61.25 -0.125 Weigreen 62.5 +1	NEW YORK METAL FUTURES	rate expectations," said Joe Prendergast, foreign exchange
	Bankamerica 49 BankAmerica 119.875 Bank of Boston 76	-0.25 -1 -0.25	Grt Central Mine	Pac Gas & Bact	Wal-Mart Stores 30.5 +0.375 Warner-Larobert102.875 +1.625 Wash Ges Light24.125 -0.125	Gold (Jun)	strategist at Merrill Lynch.
	Bank of New Yk	-0.375	Halliburion	Pact Telesis	Weshington Post372,626 -2,375 Waste Momnt Inc31,625 +0,125 Wastens-Johnson29,25 +0,25	Silver (Au)4.856 +0.02 Platinum (Apr)173.25 -0.65	"The collapse in dollar/yen itself has been exaggerated by
	Barnett Banks50.75 Battle Mount Gd625 Bausch & Lemb40.625	+0.125 +0.375 +0	Harcourt	Pail Corp 24 -0.25 Parthe Existen 45.5 -0.25 Parter Uilling 63 -0.25 Parter Hermitin 52 -0.375 Parter Hermitin 52 -0.275	Weis Markata29,125 +0 Weils Fargo284,375 -0.75	High-grade copper (May)1,17 +0.03	the argument both Japan and the US have engineered a stronger
	Baxter Int	+0.5 +1.635 +0.875	Harran's Erit	Pencesi Per 1120.625 +0 Penceci54.875 +0	Westinghouse 8	LONDON METAL FIXES	yen to offset the pressures that
	Becton Dicknson49.375 Bell Attantic68.875 Bell industries68.875 Bell South45	+1 +0.5	Harson Corp 3975 +0.25 Hartmax 825 +0.375 Hartmox 26.875 +0	People's Energy	Weyenheisuger 48.125 +1.125 Whitpool 49,626 +0.5 Whitpool 23,875 +0.125	Gold AM fiz 249.1 -0.9 Gold PM fiz 346.4 -2.7	are building for a rate rise." The dollar slumped to as low
	HA Belo Corp	+0.375 +0 +0.375	Hecha Mining	Pázer	Williams Co	Silver fiz	as 114.70 yen in early trade from 117.95 late on Wednesday and
	Bethlehem Steel	+0.125 +0 +0	Handa & Payne	Philadel Elec 20,125 +0.125	Wootworth 22.375 -0.125 World Comm 26.625 +0.5 Warthington Ind 18.25 +0.1875	(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel lines. All others are closing quotes.)	although it recovered some lost
	Black & Decker34 625 Beang99.75 Base Cascade35.625	+0 +0.125 +0.375	Hewlets Packard	Promeer Hi Bred73 +1.75	Wigley	SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 15-MAY-97)	ground through the session it still ended sharply down at
	Fichageler Inc	+0.125	Hirsch Int	Plinary Bowes	Yellow Freight18.625 +0.5		116.28. The dullar also weakened
	Briggs & Strite 49,875 Brisil Myra Sob 72 Brit Ames ADR 123,5 Brit Shoel ADR 24,25	+0.375 -0.125 +0.125	Homestake	Polycom	Zanih Becken	ABA COMPUTER STATEME LIMITED	hriefly against the mark althnngh it closed the day
	Brit Telecore	+1 -0.375 -0.125	Household Init90,125 -0.625 Houston Inds22,625 +0.25 Humana21,75 +0.25	Pub Svc Enterpr23.125 -0.125 Pug Snd Pwr25.375 +0.125	LONDON	Foreign financial data courtesy of	slightly higher at 1.69g6 cnm-
ł	Brown & Sharpe	-0.125 -0.125 -0.5	ISM174375 +0.5	Oustar Oats40.625 +0.125 Ousticom50.125 -0.25	Allied Domecq	CommStock Trading Ltd. Futures, Options,	pared with 1.6974 late on
ĺ	Burlington Nitin	+0.125	llinovs Corp21.875 +0 linovs Tool96.75 +0.25 INCO33.5 +0.125	Curanex Corp	BT62.5 +3 3TR219.5 +6.5 Barchovs1265.5 +10	Stocks, Bonds	
	CBS Inc	+0 -0.375 +1,125	INCO 33.5 +0.125 Ingenal Rand 52.375 +0.25 Infand Steel 25.5 +0.25 Intel Corp. 158.125 +0.25 Intel Corp. 158.125 +0.25	Raision Porine 84.5 +0.75 Rank Orgnan ADR 15.25 +0.125 Raychem Corp 70.75 -0.5	Bass	and Mutual Funds . 34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem	WALL STREET REPORT
- 1	CSX Corporation	+0.5 +0 -1	Intergraph	Resolution 46.875 -0.125 Resolution 40.25 -0.625	General Electric	Tel. 02-624-4963, 03-575-5825/27	Dow hits r
	Capital Cis ABC	-0.375 -0.125 -0.125	tati Matthoods	File Aid Corp48.75 +1.25	Grand Not	Fax: 02-625-9515	DUW IIIIS I
	Catarpillar	+2.5 +0.375 +0.5	Inti Paper	Rodowsy Services	H68C (75p sha)	Tel Aviv shares data	NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks
-[Central & SW	+0 +0.375	James River Ba	Poter Industries	Land Securities	supplied by Pacific Mediterranean Investments,	posted a late advance yesterday, boosting the Dow Jones industrial
- 1	Champion Int50 Ching Shoppes5.8125 Chase Manhatlan97.375	+0.625 +0.125 -1	Johnson & J	Royal Dutch 189.5 +1.75 Rubbinneld 26.376 +0.5 Rubbick 15 -0.125	Natives Benk	Tel. 09-958-5873. All other	average and other market mea- sures to new highs, as investors
	Chevron Corp	-1.375 +0 -0.825	Kaiser Alum	Pastell Cop 29.625 +0.376 Ryder System 32.75 -0.125	Prodential 670 6.5 Reutera 678.5 0.5 Sainsbury	data supplied by Commstock Trading Ltd.,	wrestled with conflicting signals on inflation and interest rates.
	Chubb Corp59.75 Cisco62.75	+0.75 +0.75 +0.75	Kennumetal	SPS Technology	Unitever	Tel. 02-624-4963. Due to technical failures data may	The Dow rose 47.39 points to close at 7,333.55, closing above
	Clevid Cilits41.875 Clorea123.25	+0 +1.075	KeyCorp54,125 +0 Kiniberly-Clark53 +0 King World Prod37,75 -0,125	SPS Technology 70.5 -0.375 Saleco Corp -1.41.375 -0.125 Salety-Hoen -15.5 +0.25 St Paint Corr -12.75 -0.375	PARIS	be inaccurate. The	1,300 IOF the first time. The blue
- 10	Coastal Corp48.875 Corea Cola68 Corea Cola Ent	-0.25 +1 +0	Knight Rober 42.25 +0.125 Kniger 26.75 +0.125	Saloreon inc	Accor	Jerusaiem Post will not be held responsible for the	chip barometer had opened the day with a 32-point loss before
	Colgate Palmoly115.75 Comcast Corp A16.5	-0.75	LSI Logic	Sara Lee Corp	85N911 -7 Cansi1098 +3	consequences of any	recovering and trading nearly unchanged until the last half hour.
	Company	+3.25 +1.375 -0.375	Leviada Nat	Scientif Atlanta 17 25 +0.375 Scripps 3825 -0.25 Sengute Tech 49.875 +1.375 Seagram 38.75 +0.75	Chb Med	transaction made on the	The technology-heavy Nasdag
- 10	Come Eministram 10 75	-0.375 +0.75 +0.125 +1	Linker rechnol	Secipite Tech 49.075 +1.375 Secipitan \$87.5 +0.75 Sears Rebuck	Cred Lyon (C)	basis of these data, Readers who wish to report	market posted the higgest gains, led hy Intel, which rebounded
- 10	Cons Freighters 30.25 Cons Nat Gas 51.875 Cons Rei 114.525	-0.125 -0.125 -0.625	Liz Galicine	Service Corp 1	Latarge Copper	missing or misquoted data	from this week's slide on news of two suits alleging patent infringe-
- 10	Caoper Inds	+0.625 +0.5625 +0.375	Lotens Corp	Shared Medical	Michelin B	should do so on postcards only, addressed to	incill in the design of the chin
	Crompton Knowles	+0 +0	Longs Drug Sirs25.75 +0.25 Long Corp14.375 -0.125	Shoney's inc	Pernod Ricard	Jerusalem Post Business	maker's Pentium microproces-
- 10	Down Cark Seat58 Currents Engine60.375 Curtiss-Wright60.375	+0.875 +0 -0.25	Lord Cop	Silcon Graphics 16.25 +0.5 Styline Corp 23.876 -0.125 Smith int 49.375 -0.625	Total B	Desk, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000	Stocks were pressured at the open by a weak bond market,
	Cypress Semicon14,75 Cypress Mineral23,6 Cytec Indust39,125	+0 +0.25 +0.125	Lucent Tech62.75 -0.75 Lucental34.375 -0.25	Sarkline Bohm A	FRANKFURT		where long-term interest rates
		-0.375 -0.75		300Y VOID ALIA	Allenz AG		hriefly shot toward unsettling lev- els amid some signs that inflation-
	00E28.5 Dana Corp34.5 Data General20.75 Dayton Hudson47.825	-0.75 -0.625 +0	Malindroot	Southdown41 +0 Southern Co21,375 +0 Sh M Foo Yel32,125 +0	Bayer66.2 +0.25 Commechanik Delimier-Banz	PAC	ary pressures remain a concern. The Labor Department reported
- 14	De Beers	-0.25 -2.625	Marriel	Southern Co 21,375 +0 Shi N. Eng Tel 31,125 +0 Southwe Address 28,625 +0 Southwesh Bel 57,25 +0,825 Southwesh Bel 57,25 +0,825 Southwesh Bel 52,55 +0	Dreadner Bk58.4 -0.75		mai consumer prices, excluding
12	Dell Computers	+0 -4.1675 -0.125	Massmulual Corp	Sprink Corp47.525 +0.5 Standard Prods24.375 -0.5	Luthanca		the volatile food and energy sec- tors, rose 0.3 percent in April,
- 11	Deline Corp	+0.5 -0.25 -0.125	Materia Inc	Stanley Works	Metalgesellschaft	MED	slightly more than expected and
- I r	Nebold Inc33.625	-0.25 -0.125 -0.375 -1.525	McConsids52 25 +0 McConsel Dglas60 +0.625	Stratus Comp	Volewagen1149 -4		September,
	Ngtat Equip	+0.5 -0.75 -0.625	McGaper Hit 53.375 -0.5 McKesson Corp	Sun Company	SOURCE SEP CONSTOCK (DATE 15-MAY-97) *In local currencies	INVESTMENTS	And in a separate reading that indicated continued upward pres-
-							STITE OT STITE OUTSOUT An ato a

end of the day, what could see more near-term protit ing is a sharp rethink taking following the FTSE's month-long, 10 percent rally. rades in risk markets "This market is still due for a 🖇 been triggered by the

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correction. Tomorrow people will start worrying about a Fed rate hike," one senior dealer said. "Wall Street is looking a hit wohhly and is also due for a correction. I would certainly look to sell into any rally."

French shares edged up to a fresh closing record, however, helped by a positive reaction in the US financial markets to inflation and other economic data.

The blue-chip CAC-40 index closed up 1.3g pnints, or 0.05 percent, at 2,776.01, surpassing Wednesday's closing record of 2.774.63 after erasing its early

losses Gnid clused in London at \$346.95 per ounce, down \$1.70 from Wednesday.

STREET REPORT ow hits new record

separate reading that ntinued upward presoyment costs - a key force behind inflation - the Labor Department also reported that first-time claims for unemployment benefits fell a higger-thananticipated 31,000 last week to 319,000, a three-week low.

The two reports countered some recent signs that economic activity may be slowing enough to keep a lid on inflationary pressures without another increase in intercst rates by the Federal Reserve. The Fed's policy makers, who in late March boosted one of the central bank's short-term lending rates, are scheduled to meet again on Tuesday.

But bonds rebounded later in the morning after two subsequent reports indicated that manufacturing activity is slowing.

In one report, the Federal Reservc reported that American industry was operating at 83.4 # percent of its capacity in April, down from 83.7 percent in March. It was the lowest operating rate in three months and an indication that consumer domand isn't creating inflationary bottlenecks in the production pipeline.

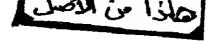
Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by a 10-to-9 margin on the New York Stock Exchange. with 1,307 up, 1,188 down and 860 unchanged.

DAHAF

NYSE volume totaled 458.14 million shares as of 4 p.m., vs. 49g.77 million in the previous

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DWELLINGS	MUST SELL - KIRYAT SHMUEL, 3.5, excellent condition, view, S218,000, AN- GLO - SAXON, TeL 02-625-1181.	BARGAIN! OLD TALPIOT (Elvat2), 3, 1st floor, balconkes. Must selli \$210,000. Exclusive to AVI KOREN LTD. Tel. 02-671- 9740. srze	COTTAGE IN S2,500 JERUSALEM S590,000	NAHLAOT, 2 ROOMS, key money. Tel. 02-624-7257. OLD CITY, 5 room cottage, dining area.	TOURISTS/BUSINESSMEN: BEAUTH FUL RENOVATED euites/apartments, ehort/long term. Rantel/Sale. PENT- HOUSE: Tel, 03-5285037; Fax: 03-	DWELLINGS Sharon Area	
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9519. 6445 REHAVIA, 3, 2ND floor, renovated, fur- nished, air conditioned. \$820. Tel. 02-	TALBIEH, LUXURIOUS PENT- HOUSE, 5, tarraces, view, parking, 51 050 000 ANGLO - SAXON REALTY	BEIT HAKEREM, 4, roomy, elegantly renovated, ol highest standard, succan balcony, convenient floor, AMBASSADOR.	hudah, 173 m, 3 + yard, kitchen ,dinetite. Tel. 02-538-5024. FIRBT COME, FIRST serval Ramot,	commissions), DIVIROLLI-SIANI. Tal. 02-623-5595. RAMAT ESHKOL, 4 + dinette, 4th floor,	JAFFA, THE BEST location, authentic Jatfa-style, Iuxurious, 3 bedrooms and large salon. 180 sq.m. + 100 sq.m. gar- dan, From 1.6.67 for 2 years. \$2500.	SOLE AGENCY UNICLE LUXURY AND ARCHITECTURAL SPLEIDOR, ONLY 4 UNITS IN PRIVATE BURDING	
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Yoseftal, Klar Sava, 765-2520; (evening) Super Pharm, 3 Ostshinsky, Klar Sava, 765-9890

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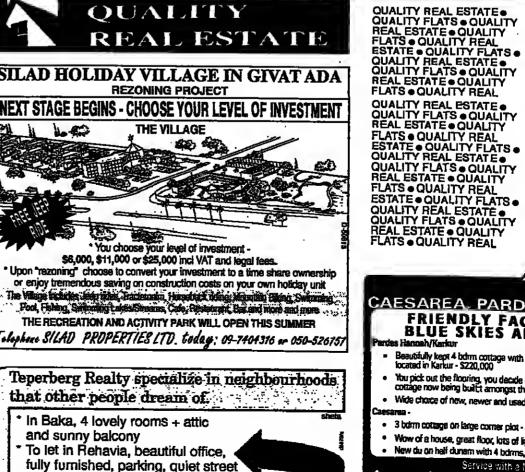
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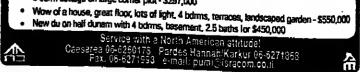
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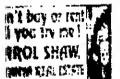
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TESHUVA Continued from Page 1

In a 1979 manual entitled An Opening to Those Knocking at the Door of Teshuva, author Yoel Schwartz wrote that there are five types of people who are candidates to enter the haredi fold.

 People from religious families who abandoned observance for a time and want to return to their "roots."

· "Babies taken captive." This is a exphemism for children born into non-observant families and who thus did not receive a religious education.

· Secular seekers of spiritual meaning in life, who may have already experimented with other kinds of religious expressions such as yoga, meditation, and so

Down-and-outers who are seeking a way out of their misery. This group includes bohemians, criminals, and drug addicts, according to Schwartz.

 People who do not have opin-ions of their own and are prone to the influence of others. The teshuva movement is not

monolithic. Different organiza-tions have different ways of pitching their message. Some are more sophisticated, others more primitive, in their oppeal. Not all cater to the same populations. From time to time, one hears about one of the impressive "catches" of the teshuva movement - a famous entertainer like Uri Zohar, e former fighter pilot, or the relative of a public figure.

But little is known about the movement's intensive efforts in the country's slums, though the reason for these efforts seems clear: If those most susceptible to

of today's

the teshuva movement's message are the "bahies taken captive" and those who have no opinions of their own," then in the cities' poorer neighborhoods and development towns, the teshuva activists can easily find both rolled into one,

Tel Aviv may be regarded hy the haredim as Israel's Sodom and Gomorrah. But in the eity itself and its suburbs - including Jaffa, Yad Eliahu, Bat Yam, Holon, and Azur - various organizations have been conducting a well-oiled campaign to win over the children of the have-nots to a haredi lifestyle. Prof. Dan Mahler, a leader of Ila - the Association to Fight Haredi Domination describes the activities of these

One of the best-known teshnova preachers in the Tel Aviv area is Rahhi Amnon Yitzhak, who makes periodic publie appearances in places like Holon, Bat Yam, and Azur. In addition to these personal appearances, Yitzhak, head of e Bnei Brakbased organization called Shofar, has prepared dozens of tapes and videocassettes to disseminate his often intimidating in its conceptions of good and evil and reward and punishment. Yitzhak has no desire to expose his activities to the outside world or to enter a dialogue on equal terms with it. His assistants refused to allow this

Yosef Walis, the director of Arachim, a much bigger and more established *teshuva* organization, tactfully disassociated himself from Yitzhak, whom he described as a one-man operation.

the crown of Arachim's activities are its four- to five-day seminars learning about Jewish observance. Walis said the families are screened so that only "normal" people with a common intellectual base are myited.

"We present a series of lectures on a scientific level," said Walis.

"Most of the lectures are very well planned, informative and highly reliable. They deal with all matters - Torah and science, sociology, history, archeology, Jewish subjects, education, kashrut, and husband-and-wife relations. Usually, by the end of such a seminar, participants believe that Torah is not just a book of folklore, but authentic and reliable."

But Arachim is also ective in the slums. Walis acknowledged that we divide our activities into two types - one for the more educated and the other for the rank-and-file. The nature of our message varies in accordance with our audience." In the poorer areas, Arachim's message is similar in tone to Yitzhak's. In fact, Yitzhak has

spoken al Arachim events. According to Mahler, the active campaign to win the non-observant souls to observance was haunched in the early 1950s by

Habad. Ironically, it received a boost because of the messianic fervor that grew out of the Six Day War, arguably the secular state's most decisive military accomplishment, but one that many others could only explain as a miracle. The disproportionate rise in the strength of the haredi political parties as a result of the deadlock between the

Likud and Labor parties since the mid-1970s also boosted the teshuva organizations, hy increasing the funding made available to

Schwartz, lamenting in 1979 that the surge of secular Jews to the haredi community of the late

had reached out more, conducted more information activities, introduced more secular Jews to teshuva institutions, and hosted more secular youths in religious homes." These, in fact, are the very activities that teshuva institu-

tions have been carrying out over the past three-and-a-half decades. There was a drop in this activity over the past six or seven years, Mahler says. But over the past year, following the national elections and the resurgence of haredi leverage in the Netanyahu government, the movement is enjoying a

1960s and early '70s seemed to

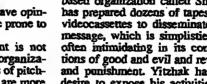
have ebbed, wrote: "If only we

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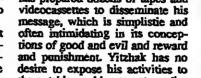
revival. According to figures published earlier this year by the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the number of male and female students in institutions catering to hozrim betshuva - as the "returnees" are often called - increased by 28 percent between May and December of last year, from 4,782 to 6,128. The number of single men studying in such yeshivot went up by 36.5

percent, from 1,998 to 2,727. Mahler has encountered other factors indicating a resurgence in the teshuva phenomenon. He told The Jerusalem Post that after several years of relative quiet, there has been a sharp jump in the number of calls he has received from distraught parents who feel their children are disappearing in front of their eyes. Teshuva activists have also started making contact with children in non-haredi schools ontside the schoolyard,

First in a five-part series on the teshuva movement in Israel's poorer neighborhoods. On Sunday: When parents' ambivalence turns to heartbreak.



groups as "conversion."



reporter to interview him.

According to Walis, the jewel in attended by families interested in

T THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR REGIONAL R&D TOPICS As a result of a Proposals must be submitted in 10 copies, in Hebrew, signed by the administration of problem with one of the following regional R&D centers: Golan Research Institute, The Galilee Society, Ramon Science Center, The Katif Research Center for Development of our computer Coastal Deserts, Hazeva R&D Center, Galilee Technological Center (MIGAL). system, some

Detailed information on the program (conditions of submission, budget information) and proposal forms (MANK-1-97) are available at the R&D Centers mentioned above, authorities of the major academic research Institutions and at the Ministry of Science. Research grant applications must be received no later than July 15, 1997.

said Mahler.



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in brief

Joint transport talks in Amman

Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy was to meet in Amman last night with his Jordanian counterpart, Bassam Shakhat, for talks on bilateral issues, including the construction of a joint airport at Akaba, the transshipment of goods at the Jordan River crossings, and crossing fees. Levy is expected to propose widening the Allenby Bridge and adding an additional Bailey bridge to handle the evcr-increasing traffic betweeo Jerusalem Post Staff the two countries.

Yaffa Deri: Aryeh married me for money

Yaffa Deri was cross-examined yesterday on the second day of testimony on behalf of her husband, Arych, on trial for fraud and bribery. Prosecutor Efrat Barzilai focused on whether she had received any promise from ber adoptive parents, the Werdebers, to provide the Deris with what is known in haredi circles as "the full arrangement," meaning the purchase and furnishing of an

apartment. Barzilai suggested there had been no such arrangement, but the witness demurred. "Why would Arych have agreed to marry me, if there wasn't an arrangement?" Deri replied. "He had some Itim good offers.'

American warship in Eilat

The American warship USS Nicholson calls in Eilat today, making it the first time a US Navy vessel has ever docked in the port. The Nicholson is on its way home after a six-month tour of duty in the Arabian Gulf enforcing a UN-imposed blockade on Iraq. Home to 27 officers and 306 enlisted sailors, the 171-meter long destroyer is one of the most heavi-ly armed vessels in the US Navy, cquipped with sophisticated attack and undersea warfare systems. US officials said the warship will be open for public tours tomorrow by reservation, which can be made through the USO in Haifa at 04-838-2057 or in Eilat at 07-638-2222. Arieh O Arieh O'Sullivan

Israel sends flour to Albania

Israel has sent 30 tons of flour to Alhania, to help alleviate the hunger there, the Israeli Embassy in Rome announced yesterday. The flour was turned over to UN representatives.

"This humanitarian aid is a gesture of solidarity with the Albanian people and demonstrates the close relationship between the two peoples, which was expressed during World War II, when the Albanians saved all Albanian Jews from Nazi Itim persecution.

Batsheva Dance head resigns

Mira Idelis announced her resignation yesterday as general manager of the Batsheva Dance Company, citing irreconcilable personal and professional differences with Batsheva artistic director Ohad Naharin.

Batsheva's board of governors announced that it had rejuctant-ly accepted Idelis's decision, and that Naharin's contract, due to expire next July, had been extended through July 2000.

Idelis, who has been with the company 21 years, became general manager eight years ago, steering Batsheva to financial stability and a solid international reputation. Her resignation takes effect July 1. Helen Kaye

New rector at Haifa University

Prof. Gad Gilbar was named rector of Haifa University yesterday by the university senate. He replaces Prof. Mordechai Shechter.

Gilbar, of the history faculty, was born in Haifa in 1944. He earned degrees in Islamic history and economics from the Hebrew University, and his PhD from London University. itern history department at Ha University in 1968, and worked his way up to heading the department. Gilbar has also recently advised the Foreign Ministry on regional economic issues, and has published numerous research papers. ltim

Eizenstat reports to congressional committee on post-war restitution: **Review handling of assets**

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - The US must reevaluate how it dealt with the heirless assets of Nazi victims in American banks, Undersecretary of State-designate Stuart Eizenstat told a congressional committee yesterday in a wideranging review of post-war restitution.

Of the \$3 million sought as compensation for heirless assets held in the US, Jewish organizations received only \$500,000 after the war, said Eizenstat, who last week released an extensive report of Nazi loot. He called for a review of the discrepancy between the amount sought and what the US

actually paid. The Eizenstat report, conducted by 11 fed-eral agencies, concluded that the neutral states prolonged the war by assisting the Third Reich, that the neutrals failed to turn over to the Allies all the Nazi loot, and that Nazi victims were subsequently harmed by the "indifference on the part of neutrals and inaction on the part of the Allies."

Yesterday's hearing was called hy Senate Banking Committee chairman, Alphonse D'Amato of New York, to review the Eizenstat report. It was the fifth session on Swiss-Nazi ties convened by a congressional committee since April 1996.

Switzerland and Sweden testified at yesterday's hearing. Two other neutrals who were criticized in the report, Spain and Portugal, declined, D'Amato said.

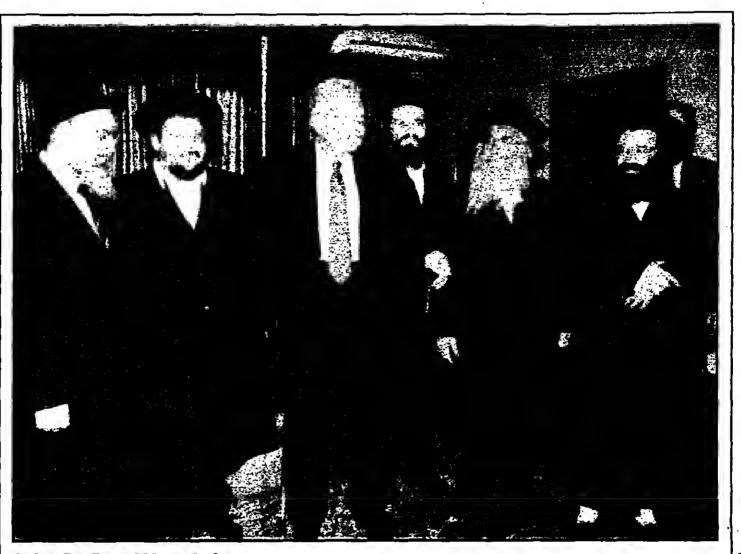
. Thomas Borer, a Swiss Foreign Ministry envoy, complained yesterday that Switzerland was treated as an "international outcast" despite its efforts to make amends for accept-

ing looted gold from Nazi Germany. "I am sorry that these endeavors have, as of yet, found little recognition and acknowledgement in the United States," Borer said, in remarks prepared for yesterday's hearing. The Swiss, old and young alike ... are perplexed and wonder why, in spite of these efforts, they continue to be treated as an international outcast."

D'Amato has suggested that a 1946 Swiss-Allied treaty, the Washington Agreement, be renegotiated because the Swiss failed to turn over all the looted gold. Bern opposes that idea, saying that the pact is legal and binding.

"The Washington Accord was negotiated, ratified, and implemented with full knowledge of the relevant facts by all the parties," Borer said. "At no time was Switzerland in a position to deceive the US."

Eizenstat also deflected discussion of the 1946 treaty, saying, "While we exclude no option, we favor a broader approach."



Rehov Bar-Ilan rabbis apologize

A delegation of rabbis from the area of Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan meet yesterday with President Ezer Weizman to apologize for attacks on policemen on the street during the siren on Remembrance Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars last Saturday night, 'We felt a need to make a public apology on behalf of haredim for the incidents,' said Rehov Bar-Ilan activist Dudi . Zilberschlag. The Eda Haredit nmbrella group had pushed for the meeting with Weizman and was to send representatives to the meeting, but they did not attend. (Brinn Hendler) -

Four killed on roads

By DAVID RUDGE and itim

Four people were killed in sepaate accidents around the country yesterday.

A motorcyclist was killed in Nazareth, two years after a crash in which his wife was killed and her parents injured.

Police said Tibor Levkovitz, 50, of Upper Nazareth, swerved out of his lane and crashed into an oncoming vehicle. The accident occurred in the morning, on a road between Nazareth's garages area and a nearby quarry.

Levkovitz, who taught car mechanics at a school in Afula, was pronounced dead at the scene by a Magen David Adom doctor.

A Rehovot man was killed yesterday when for unknown reasons, he crashed into a parked year, swerved back to the right and hit another car and was then hit by another car. Erez Hamari, 50, was declared dead at Rehovot's Kaplan Hospital. Police said Hamari may have suffered a sudden physical failure, and have asked the family to approve a request for an autopsy.

A 30-year-old pedestrian was killed last night after being hit by a car on the Ayalon Highway in Tel Aviv.

In another accident yesterday, a motorcyclist was killed when he hit a tree in Zichron Ya'acoy, police reported

Eleven people were killed in acti-dents in the last week, bringing the 1997 death toll on the roads to 131.

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NEWS

Bar-Ilan to give honorary doctorate to Havel

Czech President Vaclav Havel, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky and former deputy Supreme Court president justice Menachem Elon are to be among the recipients of bonorary doctorates from Bar-Ilan University.

The three will be honored at the upcoming meetings of the school's Global Board of Trustees. Havel will receive his degree in Prague on June 20, where the board will be visiting. Sharansky and Elon will receive theirs on campus on June 16.

Earlier this week, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Elie Wiesel received the Guardian of Zion award from the school's Ingeborg Rennett Center for Jerusalem Studies. Jerusalem Post Staf

Geula Amir petitions court to indict Raviv

By URIEL HEILMAN

Geula Amir, mother of assassin Yigal Amir, submitted a petition to the High Court of Justice yesterday seeking the indictment of Avishai Raviv. an informer for the General Security Service, for his allegedly illegal activities between 1988 and 1995. She claims that some of his activities during that period led directly to the assassination of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Raviv helped found and then lead the militant right-wing Eyal organization and later Herev David, created to operate secretly against Arabs and Jewish leftists. In her petition, Amir cites testimony implicating Raviv for inciting Rabin's murder, violent attacks against Arabs and leftwine Israelis, and the "elimination" of right-wing leaders Raviv deemed soft in their opposition to the peace process.

NE'EMAN Continued from Page 1

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house to stand trial and clear the

blemish that hangs over his name.

If not, the stain will remain forev-

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid said:

"Despite my joy at Ne eman's

acquittal, it is not fitting that he

return to the Justice Ministry. He

can return to the government, but

not necessarily to this important

and sensitive ministry. People

don't remember, but long before

his indictment, and completely

unrelated to it, he spoke ill of the

ministry staff [and] the staff of the

State Attorney's Office, who are

dedicated people who do their job

Eitan, who is attending a conference in China, told Army Radio there should be an investigation into the reason the courts had rejected so many indictments filed hy the state attorney and attorneygeneral. "Maybe something isn't right there." he said.

He also blasted Ben-Yair, stating: "There's nothing more to say about Ben-Yair, his greed, his hehavior, the way he canceled certain charges (against the Left)."

Ben-Yair did not respond to the acquittal or to the attacks on him. Labor faction chairman Ra'anan Cohen congratulated Ne'eman, but called on the prime minister "to follow Ne'eman into the court-



NO TELEPHONE SUBMISSIONS

well."

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Israelis may think of the Polish Jewish community as dead or dying, but two American Joint Distribution Committee workers insist it's alive and thriving, building firm foundations for tomorrow on the ruins of the past.

"We Israelis don't know very much about Jewish life in Poland today," said Yossi Erez, a Polish-based consultant on Jewish education and culture. "Until now, we thought that there was potting there but cemeteries and concentration carnos. But (the Jewish community in] Poland is something else today. You have Jewish life, you have Jewish newspapers, organizations. Something new is happening in Jewish life there."

"Until a few years ago, when I thought about Poland from a Jewish point of view, I did not know that there was a community still existing there," said Manlio Dell'Ariccia, who also works in Poland for the Joint. "I knew there were Holocaust survivors, but I thought once they disappeared, the rest of the community would, too. The reality is different."

Estimates on the number of Jews there vary, Dell'Ariccia said, but the best estimate is between 8-15,000. There have been estimates of up to 250,000, the result of a recent increase in the number of Poles who have suddenly discovered they have Jewish blood.

"With the end of the Communist regime and the return to democracy, we are witnessing the phenomenon of more and more people - middle-aged and young people - suddenly discovering their Jewish identity," he explained. Some find out after a family member dies, and they go through their personal

"This is something that happened spontaneously - no one was pushing these people, but rather they approached Jewish organizations and toki them: 'I'm Jewish.' There is no advantage for these people in saying they are Jewish; I would say the opposite. So this makes the phenomenon even more interesting, and creates a need for Jewish organizations to provide these people with answers."

Besides its traditional welfare work, which the Joint has been performing in Poland for some 80 years, it now has a new challenge: meeting the needs of an emerging community.

The Joint has been doing more cultural, educational and community work in Poland in the past four years, especially among students.

"Two years ago, there weren't any Jewish student organizations. Now we have 150 students involved. In 1989, there were only two Jewish organizations; now there are eight," Erez said proudly.

"There are three Jewish newspapers nationwide, centered in Warsaw. There is a group for children of survivors, one for 'hidden Jews.' The summer camp outside Warsaw started with 20 kids, but this past summer we had 100. And in the seminar where we train young leaders for the Jewish community, we once had 12. Now we have more than 40."

The Joint workers make materials on Judaism and Israel available in a pedagogic center set up in Warsaw, and send materials to outlying communities. The seminar training future

Jewish community leaders also sends its participants to Israel for a special session in July after a year of training.

The traditional welfare work is also continuing, with a canteen providing kosher meals for the poor and elderly, and a planned day center for the elderly in Cracow.

The Polish government is largely supportive of these efforts, Dell'Ariccia said, adding that recent legislation to allow the Jewish communities to recover some property lost during the Holocaust only underscores this attitude. Poland is also the only country in the world with a special ambassador to the Jewish Diaspora.

Asked whether this attitude is sincere or just a ploy to gain foreign investment, he said: "I don't have an answer. It could be a little of both, but I think they have a genuine interest in

Dell'Ariccia, who has worked with different Jewish groups around the world, likes to compare those experiences with Jewish holidays. His experience with the Ethiopian Jews he compares to Pessah, he says. The situation in Poland reminds him of Hanukka.

There the Jews' enemies tried to destroy them physically and culturally, and Judah Maccabi resisted, and there was the miracle of the small amount of oil that lasted for eight days. It's the same in Poland. The Nazis tried to destroy the Jewish people physically in the Holocaust, then the Communists tried to do it spiritually. Now what we are seeing is this small group that is left, this small light, is enough to create new Jewish life in many places in Poland."

GIVE

Continued from Page 11

Aust\$100 In memory of the seven schoolgirls from Bein Shemesh - Myron and Jeff Rogers, Australia. £50 In honor of the birth, 10 Dina and Itzik, of Avincam Elinh, our t0th grandchild - Saba and Savia Maurice. New Progress Totals Donation NIS 1,000 NIS 40,552 \$985 \$13.624.40 (other currencies converted into shekels)

NIS 36 In honor of the bar mitzva of Jerry Nathan Kudan of Queensbury, NY from the Dubin family. NIS 10 Esther Rosenstein, Netanya. \$180 Interactive Business Services. Bayside, NY. \$80 In memory of Moshe and Gittle

Glicksman - Mitch Haviv, Oceanside, \$50 Ruth Lawrence, Ann Arbor, MI.

S75 Edward Hyde, Columbia, SC. S12 In memory of my mother, Frances Ginsburg - Wayne Ginsburg, Flushing, NV Sw.Fr.180 in cherished memory of our

mother, grandmother and great-grand-mother, Bertha Kossoy nee Jablonowski on the 13th anniversary of her death (lyar 5) - Kossoy and Ohry-Kossoy families, Geneva and Kiryat Krinizi.

Progress Totals NIS 22,546 Donations NIS 471 \$6,349 (other currencies converted into shekels)

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Reflecting his liberal tendencies, a large number of the bills he has proposed or passed concern taxes and insurance, particularly for the self-employed. And a large number of laws were also concerned with environmental issues such as demanding a deposit on cartons and bottles and being able to confiscate the driving license of someone found illegally dumping construction waste. He also fought to close the Reading power station, not far from his home in north Tel Aviv.

Poraz has been praised for the law under which reserve soldiers no longer need a special permitfrom their IDF unit hefore leaving the country. And he is also behind the laws restricting the amounts of money a political candidate can receive for primary election campaigns (a system he hates as much as he favors direct elections for premier). He also has a history of success-

fully petitioning the High Court of Appeals. It started when he was a Tel Aviv city councillor and he petitioned against the decision of candidate for Tel Aviv chief rabbi (and now national Ashkenazi Chief Rabhi) Yisrael Lau who said he would not run if the board which elects the rabbis included a woman. He has petitioned against Ariel Sharon's use of emergency regulations to justify massive building after the wave of immigration without regular planning

and environmental reviews. He managed to stop the allocation of special lands to haredi groups without tenders. (He also fought to stop special allocations of funds to haredi parties.) Poraz also challenged the decision to stop Israel Television broadcasts

on Shabbat after the Gulf war. Currently, he is trying to pro-mote legislation, which he knows has no chance of passing, which would abolish the chief rabbinate altogether. "It goes against the spirit of Judaism. There is no pope in Judaism. The chief rabbis are not even considered halachically superior and are elected, politically, by secular people. Even the religious have their own rabhis who take precedence - like Ovadia Yosef or Rabhi Schach. I think religious services such as burials and weddings should be supplied by local councils like they provide electricity and water.

Poraz is used to being accused of heing antireligious, a charge he denies: "I know it sounds cliched but I'm not against religion or the religious, but I am against religious coercion," he says. "I, for example, would equally fight to make sure someone wasn't fired for not working on Shabbat and to

PORAZ **Continued from Page 9**

ensure that food in the IDF and in hospitals is kosher." He does not object to shopping malls being forced to close on Shabbat, partly to protect the small traders, but wants to leave places of entenainment open.

Although he has often been attacked in the Knesset plenum by the Right and religious MKs, nearly all of them recall the time he went in the face of Meretz and Labor two years ago and agreed to be absent for the vote on the Golan Heights Law to pair off with Likud MK Haim Kaufman who was dying of cancer.

Although Meretz and Labor. including prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, said there could be no such matches on such a crucial vote, Poraz stood firm. "When I heard that the Likud would bring in Kaufman on a stretcher for the vote because nobody would pair off with him I decided I couldn't let the Knesset he demeaned by such a sight." The vote was a tie. Kaufman died shortly after.

National Religious Party faction chairman Hanan Porat at the time called Poraz "a gentleman." Today he says: "I respect Poraz for his integrity and his work as a parliamentarian but lately, unfortunately, he has become carried

PORAZ WAS born in Romania and arrived here at the age of five. He studied at the Alliance School in Ramat Aviv and is still happier using French than English as a foreign language. After his IDF service as an investigator in the military police, Poraz earned money as a film projectionist. Watching films, particularly old French movies, is still a favorite pastime of his. Having been head of the project which established commercial and cable television, he also, naturally, likes the small screen and is a huge fan of Rumpole and Yes, Prime Minister.

Although he has some criticism of Channel 2, he says: "You can't expect it not to be bound by ratings. It's like asking a fish not to be dependent on water. Ratings is the oxygen of commercial television. On the woole, I think that Channel 2 is a success. If for nothing else, 1 think it is important that it created an alternative source of television news. I strongly believe in pluralism."

If his own fight to return Shinui to the Knesset fails, he says he will go back to his legal practice, but he insists on trying to get Shinui in, despite the difficulties and hard work. "It's a challenge," he says. "But like they say in French: 'Qui ne risque pas, ne gagne pas.' If you don't take a chance, you don't win."

away with unseemly gimmicks."

WELCOME HOME FUND

Betar look to wear crown in festive J'lem derby

By ORI LEWIS

Betar Jerusalem are in a unique position of being able to clinch their third National League crown in a derby match when they meet Hapoel tomonow evening. The clash at Teddy Stadium is cer-tain to be packed solid as the emotions

of the fans of the two archrivals bubble over, not too fizzily one hopes. The Jerusalem derby is always a special occasion in local soccer and

many a story has been told by grand-

parent to grandchild of the games

played at the old Katamon and YMCA grounds. Probably only half of the expected 13,000 fans will remember the days

of old -Katamon was abandoned for

redevelopment in the 'seventies and

YMCA some six years ago - when spectators used to scale high fences

and sit in the trees as they tried to be

In the 'seventies it was Hapoel which ruled the capital, as Betar

were emerging from the lower divi-

sions, now the tables are turned.

Hapoel have done very well to

secure their place in the league for at

least another season despite serious

financial difficulties. Betar, on the

other hand, have proved to be almost

league - and they did it in the

a part of the occasion.

By DAVID RUDGE atta

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invincible this season. 1. A. 1. 20 6 1 Many of the grandchildern of today – among the Betar supporters – will be probably be able to tell their own grandchildren in several S 67 5. a tak na saistage a a to consultanubize and the first game decades' time that they were there a the state when the boys in yellow won the

Tikva drop points.

in desperate trouble. Holon currently occupy 15th spot and could join Hapoel Taiba in the Second Division next season if they lose to Hapoel Haifa at home today, while Hapoel Tel Aviv beat Bnei Yehuda at home tomorrow. The goal difference great-

The Second Division promotion race is also at boiling point and today Hapoel Ashkelon can secure a place in the National League for the first time in their history if they can at least

have 54 points - six behind Ashkelon, with just two matches (including today's) remaining. This weekend's National League Actures: Zaftrim Holow v. Hapoel Haith, Holon, anday 16:30; Maccabl Petah Tikra v. Hapoel Beerstelen, Potah Tikra, tomorrow 16:00; Hapoel Beit She'an w. Maccabl Heraltys, Beit She'an today 16:00; Ironi Rishne v. Maccabl Tel Aviv, Rishon today 16:30; Hapoel Jersualem v. Betar Jersules, Today Staftan tomorrow 17:45; Hapoel Tel Aviv v. Baei Vehnia, Bloomfield tomorrow 17:00; Hapoel Kint Sava v. Hapoel Thika, Kint Sava today 16:30; Maccabi Haita v. Hapoel Petak Tikra, Kint Sava v. Hapoel Tabla, Kint Sava today 16:30; Maccabi Haita v. Hapoel Petak Tikra, Kint Sava v.

	N	ationa	Lea	aue				
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Maccabi Tel Aviv	27	13	.8 9	8	45	30	15	45
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Hapoet Kfar Sava	27	10	7	10	30	30	-	37
Happel Haifa	27	10	6	11	29	31	-2	36
Bnei Yehuda	27	9	8	10	28	31 34	-6	36 35
Ironi Rishon Lezion	27	9	8	12	30	44	-14	33
Happel Jerusalem	27	9	85	13	28	44 37	-9	32
Haooei Beit She'an	27	8.	6	13	24	29	-5	30
Maccabi Herziva	27	9	3	15	17	25	-8	30
Happen Tel Aviv	27	5	. 9 ·	. 13 .	15	29 25 29	-14	24
Image at the state to an a second of								

Jerusalem derby The match kicks off at 17:45, and

Betar could already be crowned champions beofre the final whistle if Hapoel Petah Tikva, who play away to Maccabi Haifa and Hapoel Beersheba, who visit Maccabi Penah

The relegation battle still rages, with three matches to go, Zafirim Holon and Hapoel Tel Aviv are still ly favors the Tel Avivians.

draw with Ironi Ashdod at home. The only problem is that their

opponents are the Ashdodis, who must win in order to keep ahead of Maccabi Netanya in the fight for the second promotion spot. Both sides have 54 points - six behind

game to bring series to 3-2 MIAMI (Reuter) - Voshon Lenard scored 12 of his 21 points in the third quarter as the Miami Heat literally offensive funk with a big third quarover the New York Knicks in their from the field in the period.

ROUGH AND TUMBLE - Miami Heat guard Tim Hardaway (10) falls after being fouled by New

Heat beats Knicks in ugly

York Knicks' guard Chris Childs in first-quarter action of their playoff game in Miami.

After a terrible first half by both the New Jersey Nets - exchanged teams, the Heat snapped out of their words and a foul stopped play two

seconds later. On Hardaway's secbrawled their way to a 96-81 victory ter behind Lenard, who was 5-of-5 and foul shot, Brown picked up Ward and flipped him head-over-Eastern Conference semifinal series Lenard had six points in a 12-2 heels into the photographers along

19

in brief

Swimmers compete at Haifa Cup meet

The best of Israel's swimmers will face international competition in The best of Israel's swimmers will race international competition in the Haifa Cup tournament today and tomorrow at the Technion pool. Swimmers from Hangary and Ukraine have arrived specially for the event, while others from Belarus, Kazahkstan and the US, cur-rently residing in Israel, will also participate. Demnis Silantiev from Ukraine will be the name to beat in the but-terfly with Belarus's Valery Stalmochenko a force in the breastroke.

Among the local entrants are Olympians Yoav Bruck and Vadim Alexsey, as well as Eran Garumi, Yoav Gat, Mickey Halika, Dov Melnick, Ehud Dekter and Uni Stift. The heats will be held in the Heather Chait mornings with the finals at 5.15 p.m.

Palace, Sheff Utd to vie for premier league spot

LONDON (Reuter) - Crystal Palace earned a place in the English first division playoffs for the second successive year when they held off a determined challenge by Wolverhampton on Wednesday night.

The London club will meet Sheffield United, winners on the away goals rule over Ipswich, at Wembley on May 26 for a place in the premier league.

The match at Ipswich ended 2-2 after extra time following a 1-1 draw in the first leg last weekend. Wolves won 2-1 on the night but Palace took the two-leg play-

off by dint of their 3-1 victory in the first leg.

PSG goalkeeper Lama gets 5-month ban

PARIS (Reuter) - Paris St Germain goalkeeper Bernard Lanna was banned for five months, three suspended, for doping by the French Football Federation (FFF) yesterday. Lama, who tested positive for cannabis while training with the

French national team in February, will begin the suspension from the moment he receives a letter of notification, expected today, a FFF spokesman said.

All-female yacht crew readles to break records

SOUTHAMPTON (AP) - Yachtswoman Tracy Edwards and an all-female crew set sail for New York yesterday to prepare for a challenge on the transatlantic speed record.

The 34-year-old skipper and her seven crew left Hamble, near Southampton, on a 28-meter catamaran which they plan to test on the westbound voyage.

Edwards, who skippered the first all-female crew in the Whitbread Round the World race, expects to arrive in New York in about three weeks.

The crew will then wait for the most favorable weather conditions to return to Britain and challenge the west to east trans-Atlantic record of six days, 13 hours and 3 minutes set by Frenchman Serge Madec in 1990.

The crossing will be the first in a triple challenge for the women and their boat.

In August, they will try to beat the Round Britain and Ireland record and at the end of the year they will compete for the Jules Verne Trophy for the fastest non-stop circumnavigation of the world.

O'Brien's 3 homers lead Blue Jays past Tigers

SPORTS

SPORTS

		THE PLAN TO A VIEW	21	-		u 10	20	-1-+			Louis on pours in a 12-2	news mus me photographics and
3		- Zaminier Helon		4	1911.1	4.1 10:016v		- 22	124. **	Pon-Wednesday.	· burst that gave Miami control for	the baseline. Brown, Ward and
· · ·	1	Happel Zaibe	27		2.2	1. 17	59	-42	. 14 .	The Heat overcame another poor	good. After a hook by Ewing closed	Starks all were ejected
··· ·		· · · · · · ·		bacca	Divisio					performance by Alonzo Mouming	the deficit to 48-46 with 5:16	The league is expected to review
à .				econu	DIA1250		-	DW	Die .	and trail 3-2 in the best-of-seven	remaining, Dan Majerle and Lenard	the target is expected to to yew
		Hapoel Ashkalon	28	18	8	G1 36	G8	23	Pts			the tape of the incident, which could
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		Maccabi Netanya	28	18	8 8	51	32	19	54	One of the ugliest playoff games in	Ewing dunked, but Lenard made a	Hardaway shot just 3-of-17 from
		Hakoah Ramat Gan	28	12	7	51 36	24 32 28	10	43	memory was capped by a brawl	three-point play for a 57-48 lead	the field but scored 16 points.
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	51U"	Maccabi Katr Kana	28	10	9 9	28	27	-1	39	ers were ejected, including three	Hardaway and free throw by Majerle	shooting, but the Heat held a 42-31
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•	-	Betar Tel Aviv	28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 2	9	9.	0 28	33	-7	36	debris from the Miami Arena crowd.	2:43 to go.	Allan Houston scored 15 points
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		Happel KShmona	28	5	13	3 28 4 20 4	40	-15	20	team in NBA history to overcome a	jump hook by Ewing with 6:16 to	ted 21 turnovers.
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· · ·	· ·		20	4	i . i	8 23 3 23	39	-26 -18	23	The winner faces Chicago in the	Langed hit a three sainter Deserve	in planet history
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,		Contraction of the local division of the loc			1	A		anos a succession		conference finals.	sank two free throws and Majerle	The teams combined for 69 points.

LONDON - Happed Halls and LONDON - Happed Halls and have reserve to the output of the second of th

performance by Alonzo Mouning and trail 3-2 in the best-of-seven series.

conference finals. Miami's PJ. Brown had 18 points and 12 rebounds before he was ejected with 1:53 remaining. Brown flipped Knicks guard Charlie Ward out of bounds, bringing players from both teams onto the court. There

was plenty of shoving before order was restored. John Starks scored 21 points off the bench and Patrick Ewing added

15 for the Knicks, who became the first team to allow 90 points in the series. New York lost for just the second time in eight playoff games.

New York trailed 66-59 after three quarters and closed to 74-72 on a jump hook by Ewing with 6:16 to play. But Mourning made a hook, Lenard hit a three-pointer, Brown sank two free throws and Majerle made a three-pointer, giving Miami an 84-72 lead with 3:21 remaining. Tempers have been simmering all

series and finally boiled over. It began in the third quarter, with Starks pounding his chest and shouting at Heat players. With 1:55 to play in the fourth and the Heat in control, there was a shoving match between Mourning and Knicks forward Charles Oakley, who was ejected.

Brown and Knicks guard Chris Childs - teammates last season on

The league is expected to review the tape of the incident, which could lead to suspensions. O'Brien hit three home runs for the

Allan Houston scored 15 points uncarned runs in the first inning and for the Knicks, who were 3-of-14 not much else. He struck out eight from three-point range and commitand walked one in his second comted 21 turnovers. plete game of the season.

one more than the lowest half ever, and 26 points in the second quarter, the third-worst total. Miami made just 12-of-40 shots --and led, 35-34. The Heat began

quickly, racing to a 13-2 lead on Brown's layup with 6:45 remaining in the first quarter. But it took them another 14 minutes to score their next 13 points.

a homer, and Offerman and Tom Mourning, plagned by foul trouble Goodwin each had two hits for the entire series, went to the bench Kansas City, which has won six of its last nine games and improved to 40 against Boston this season. with one basket in eight attempts and his third foul with 7:11 left.

SCOREBOARD

SCUREBUARD TENNIS - Itilian Open results yes-terday: singles, third round: Alberto Berasategui, Spain, del. Yevreny Kavin Goeliner, Germanny, del Albert Costa (11), Spain, 6-4, 6-3; Jian Courier, Ualited States, del. Marc Rosset (15), Switzeriand, 7-6 (7-5), 6-3; Aler Corretja (10), Spain, del Carlos Moya (8), Spain, 6-4, 6-4; Marcelo Rias (7), Chile, del. Magnus Larsson, Sweden, 4-6, 7-5, 6-4; Goran Ivaniseric (6), Croatia, del Enris Becker (12), Germany, 7-6 (6-7), 6-3; Scott Draper, Australia, del Davide Scala, Italy, 7-5, 6-2; Karian Alami, Morocco, del Sergi Bragnera, Spain, 3-6, 6-2, 7-5.

Toronto Blue Jays, including a grand

slam, to give Pat Hentgen his fourth

straight victory, a 7-2 win over the

Hentgen (4-1) allowed two

In his last three starts - all wins -

the 1996 American League Cy

Young Award winner has an ERA of

0.00, allowing three uncarned runs

Royals 6, Red Sox 2

Jay Bell each knocked in two runs

in the seventh inning as the Kansas

City Royals handed the Boston Red

Chili Davis had two hits, including

Yankees 6, Twins 5

At Minnesota, Paul O'Neill dou-

bled in the tying run with two outs

National League

23

Sox their sixth straight loss, 6-2.

In Kansas City, Jose Offerman and

in 26 innings.

East Divis

Atlanta Florida Montreal New York Philadolphia 111/2 Castal Data

SL Louis Chicago Cincinnal

Detroit Tigers on Wednesday.

DETROIT (Reuter) - Charlie opposite-field homer in the 12th to rally the New York Yankees to their fourth straight win, a 6-5 victory over the Minnesota Twins.

The Yankees have won seven of their last eight games and handed the Twins their 17th loss in 21 games. NATIONAL LEAGUE

Martins 4, Braves 3

In Adanta, Kurt Abbott doubled home the tying run in the top of the seventh inning and Edgar Renteria followed with an RBI single as the Florida Madins held on for their fourth straight win, 4-3 over the Atlanta Braves.

Kevin Brown got the win, allowing three runs and seven hits in six innings. He helped himself by scoring twice, including the tie-breaking run in the seventh

Dodgers 6, Cubs 4 In Chicago, Nelson Liriano's tworun homer off Mel Rojas in the ninth inning lifted the Los Angeles Dodgers to a come-from-behind 6-4 victory over the Chicago Cubs.

Eric Anthony led off the ninth with a double off Rojas.

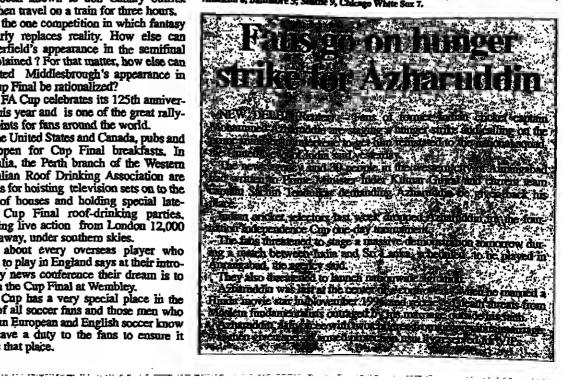
After a sacrifice by Juan Castro, Liriano hit his first homer of the seain the ninth inning and drilled an son to snap a 4-4 tie.

Amer	ican	Leag	B
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			East Division				
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Wednesday's NL games: Montreal 9, San Diego 7; Los Angeles 6, Chicago Cabs 4; St. Louis 12, Philadelphia 3; Houston 1, NY Mets 0; Pinsburgh 15, Colorado 16; Florida 4, Atlanta 3; San Francisco 4, Cincinnati 2, 10

nesday's AL games: Toronto 7, Detroit 2; NY Yankzes 6, Minnesota 5, 12 innings; 4, Cleveland 3, 10 innings; Kansas City 6, Boston 2; Onkland 7, Milwankze 4; m 6, Baltimore 5; Senttle 9, Chicago White Sox 7. Texas 4, Cle



Beersheba suporters want coach Eli Guttman out now

By OR! LEWIS

Furious Hapoel Beersheba fans were last night calling for the immediate dismissal of coach Eli Guttman after announcing in midweek that he would be leaving the club at the end of the sea-

Guttman had told club presi-

be would be moving to take over as coach of Hapoel Haifa next season, but news soon leaked out and the fans were furious. Despite their anger, Beersheba fans have little to complain about as Guttman has done a good job at Beersheba and they

dent Eli Lahav in confidence that

are certain to finish second or third in the National League

standings. They have also Landau, who is negotiating with reached the State Cup final and will attempt to win the trophy for the first time when they face Maccabi Tel Aviv in the final on May 27.

Lahav has taken Guttman's leaving in his stride and has already begun searching for a club. The parties are expected to new coach. Currently in the frame is Gili , on the matter.

the club. Another candidate, Benny Tabak, dropped out of the running after failing to agree financial terms with Beersheba. Dror Kashtan looks to be head-

ing back to Betar Jerusalem for his third stint in charge of the meet next week to finalize a deal

side have just won the English League for have been known to don Canary outfits. And then travel on a train for three hours, It is the one competition in which fantasy regularly replaces reality. How else can

the Cup Final be rationalized?

bars open for Cup Final breakfasts. In night Cup Final roof-drinking parties, watching live action from London 12,000

play in the Cup Final at Wembley.

The Cup has a very special place in the heart of all soccer fans and those men who now run European and English soccer know they have a duty to the fans to ensure it

FA Cup Final still retains its magic - for now

By MIKE COLLETT

LONDON (Reuter) - Along with the World Cup and the European Champions Cup, the English FA Cup Final is revered by fans throughout the world as one of soccer's great showpiece occasions.

But a viewpoint, first expressed in the early 1990s, is gaining popularity. It is this How much longer will the FA Cup, the oldest competition in world soccer, retain its undoubted allure and glamor?

The issue was first raised in 1993 by the English fanzine When Saturday Comes, which argued that the Cup Final was one of many end-of-season matches played by club teams at Wembley Stadium whereas " once it was the only one.

Because the League Cup Final and promotion play-offs were now played under the Twin Towers, the special nature of the Cup

Final was being undermined. Now, in 1997, its position is under threat from a totally different source - the expansion of the European Cap, or as UEFA, European soccer's ruling body, likes it to be

Spontations Prep Hotomin and Ori Levits

known, the Champions League.

The argument runs that the European Cup-Champions League is now a far more lucrative money-spinner than the FA Cup Final can ever be, and that clubs in the major European countries would rather finish second in their domestic league championships than win their domestic cup competitions and go into the far less prestigious Cup Winners Cup.

Consequently they are more likely to field weaker teams in Cup matches, devaluing their cup competitions by concentrating more on their league programs.

In Italy, for example, the Coppa Italia has always been a poor second to the league, but until very recently the English Cup was perceived as being sacrosanct and held a reverted place in faus' affections around the world.

Tomorrow's match is being televized live or on tape delay to 184 countries worldwide and more than one billion people will see the goals that eventually decide the outcome of the match between Chelsea and Middlesbrough. But the people who run the clubs, the chairmen and the managers, may take a different viewpoint. Alex Ferguson, whose Manchester United

the fourth time in five seasons, has fielded weakened teams in the English League Cup for the last three seasons. Does he dare do the same in the FA Cup?

In England the season's biggest crowds are often recorded at FA Cup matches. Even Manchester United, had an attendance of 55,342 for their fourth round match against poorly-supported Wimhledon in January - their higgest crowd of the season apart from their Champions League match against Juventus.

There is no doubt the Cup is part of the English social psyche, much as it has been since it first began to capture the public's imagination when it began in the 1871-72 season.

Second Division Chesterfield's run to the semifinals this season galvanized the town in a way that nothing has done since the spire on the town's main church started to bend into a bizarre, crooked apparition 400 vears ago.

Fans who normally only watch matches on TV will travel the length and breadth of the country to go to a Cup match.

Tottenham fans dress up as cockcreis, Hereford fans as Bulls and Norwich fans retains that place.

relegated Middlesbrough's appearance in The FA Cup celebrates its 125th anniver-

comes to play in England says at their introductory news conference their dream is to

miles away, under southern skies.

Chesterfield's appearance in the semifinal be explained? For that matter, how else can

sary this year and is one of the great rally-

ing points for fans around the world. In the United States and Canada, pubs and Australia, the Perth branch of the Western Australian Roof Drinking Association are famous for hoisting television sets on to the

roofs of houses and holding special late-

Just about every overseas player who

NEWS

Friday, May 16, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

Treasury refuses to erase councils' deficit

By DAVID HARRIS and ARYEH DEAN COHEN

"There is no way the Treasury is going to wipe out the municipalities' NIS 4 billion deficit," a Finance Ministry spokesman declared yesterday, as the Union of Local Authorities (ULA) stepped up its campaign against the ministry.

There have been ongoing negotiations between the Treasury and ULA, with the Interior Ministry attempting to act as go-between. During the talks, the mayors said they would accept the recently formulated proposals of the Efrati Committee on local authority funding, and the recommendations by Treasury wage director Yossi Kucik on tackling pay excesses, if the government wipes out their debts. The Efrati report is likely to be submitted to the cabinel for approval in one of its upcoming

A ULA attempt to bring 250 garbage trucks to blockade the Prime Minister's Office failed yesterday because police set up dozens of roadblocks around the

country and at the entrances to the municipalities.

While we support the ULA's The Interior Ministry has asked claims, it won't harm them to wait the ULA to call off its strike until a day or two," said Interior Interior Minister Eli Suissa and Ministry spokeswoman Tova Finance Minister Dan Meridor Ellinson. Leaders of the local authorities meet Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to discuss the plight of acceded to Suissa's request to

cease the disruption of classes. However, ULA chairman Adi Eldar said that if the ULA's demands are not met by the government, additional actioo would be taken against the school system oext week.

One government source yester-

day reminded the media that municipal elections are slated for November 1998. "Why do you think they're kicking up such a fuss now?" said the source. "They certainly don't want to go into an election year with problems such as a huge deficit."

Some 255 authorities held work disruptions yesterday. Some 240 closed schools up to 10th grade, while in the remainder all classes took place as usual, the ULA said, The strike also affected many kindergartens. Special education classes were not affected. David Rudge adds:

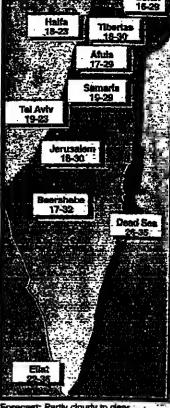
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Israeli Arab council heads are to meet tomorrow to consider intensifying their strike action, independently of ULA, if no solution is forthcoming to the local authorities' financial plight. "A meeting is scheduled to take

place [today] between representatives of the ULA and Prime Minister Netanyahu," said Hussein Suleiman, spokesman for the Forum of Arab Council Heads. "The outcome of those talks will be discussed at the planned meeting of the monitoring committee [of the Israeli Arab leadership] on Saturday," said Suleiman.

"If nothing is forthcoming, we'll be considering an open-ended strike, even if the ULA decides

against such action," he said. The Arab councils have accumulated debts of NIS 450 million.



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Ministry: No '97 matric exams in History, English, Hebrew

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

High school seniors who don't know mucb about history breathed a sigh of relief yesterday, after an Education Ministry committee decided that subject, along with English and Hebrew, would be left off this year's list of required matriculation exams.

However, pupils also got a quick lesson in politics, as MKs blasted Education Minister Zevulun Hammer's last-minute announcement that he had cancelled the lottery and turned over the exam decision to a committee.

The committee - headed by Director-General Benzion Dell and including Pedagogic Secretariat chairman Prof. Ozer Schild and ministry Chief Scientist Prof. Zamira Mevarech - left math, literature, Bible, and civics as this year's required exams.

A ministry spokesman said Hammer's decision to dump the lottery stemmed from its problematic "Lotto" image, which cheapened the respectable educa-

tional framework. Hammer said in a statement the

system also nudermined the 'standing" and "prestige" of exams that were not required, since subjects could come up in the lottery several years running, as had literature the past two years. Dell said the committee exam-

ined the past two lotteries for this very reason, making sure that literature would be a required exam this year. English and Hebrew, which were required the past two years, were therefore left off this time. Dell said the popils had not been hurt a bit by the decision, since, "We promised only four exams, and that is what will be."

Hammer, who is abroad, rejected criticism of the last-minute dropping of the lottery. "Just as the finance minister doesn't announce a planned devaluation ahead of time so as not to shake up the economy, I thought announcing this ahead of time would interfere with studies, and would create pressure groups 'for' and 'against' certain subjects," he said.

Former education minister MK Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz), who introduced the lottery, said Hammer's misleading the nation's high school pupils just an bour before it was scheduled was very serious, and intended to prevent a public debate. He said the lottery was designed to prevent any out-side influence, but this is impossi-ble once it was put in the bands of

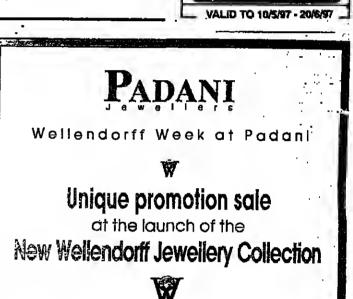
the director-general. MK Dalia Itzik threatened to petition the High Court of Justice over the issue. She demanded an emergency session of the Knesset Education Committee to lonk into the matter and that Hammer resign, saying: "He who lies and breaks promises should not bead our educational system."

Meretz MK Dudi Zucker said the move was tantamount to cbeating the pupils, and the fact it was annouoced at the last moment and that Hammer is abroad made it seem like a trick planned ahead of time.

Two Jerusalem seniors facing the test were split in their feelings.

Ayelet, a pupil at the capital's AMIT-Dror High School, said, "The min-istry knew about this all year, and just sprung it on us at the last moment. If we had known this was going to happen, we would have protested." However, her friend, Na'ama, of Pelech, said she was happy about the decision to exclude history, since, "I was hoping it would be dropped, and I lucked out."





Hollywood welcomes Milo

Weizman resolves Hadassah dispute

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem.

President Ezer Weizman managed to make peace yesterday between the two feuding sides in the six-month-old dispute over the Hadassah Medical Organization's recovery

program. After presiding over a three-hour meeting Wednesday afternoon at Beit Hanassi with representatives of the doctors and HMO management, Weizman goaded them into resolving the labor dispute during 16 more hours of continuous discussions that ended yesterday morning.

HMO director-general Prof. Shmuel Penchas, Israel Medical Association chair-

man Dr. Yoram Blachar and doctors' unioo members signed an agreement under the watchful prodding of Beil Hanassi director-general Arye Sburner, who participated, bleary-eyed, in the eotire session until "wbite smoke" emerged.

"Hadassah won, and we are very bappy," declared both HMO deputy director-general Prof. Shlomo Mor-Yosef and union spokeswoman Behira Bardugo yesterday wben asked who was the victor.

Management, which had refused to cancel unilateral steps for reducing the organiza-tion's NIS 187 million deficit, finally agreed to abrogate them, and the doctors coosented to a series of budget-cutting steps, including a freeze on the number of job slots and the institution of a staff loan to management (instead of a 4% reduction in wages) over four years.

As a result, the 700 doctors at the two Hadassah-University Hospitals in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem and on Mt. Scopus yesterday brought an end to all sanctions and strikes.

Weizman initiated his Solomonic rescue mission after receiving pleas from students at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, whose lecturers went ont on strike nearly two months ago.

Medical school classes will resume on Sunday.

Actress Goldie Hawn hugs Tel Aviv Mayor Roni Milo after Hawn was named arts emissary to Tel Aviv, during a benefit dinner Wednesday in Beverly Hills launching Israel's jubilee year celebrations. Actor Kirk Douglas was awarded the title of honorary ambassador at the dinner, which was sponsored by the Tel Aviv Foundation. Following the assassination of Yitzbak Rabin, the Douglas Foundation initiated a special project with the Tel Aviv Foundation, a park in the city's Ezra neighborhood. (Reuter)

Cities to mark solidarity with AIDS victims

Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa will join 290 cities around the world to mark an international day of solidariry with AIDS victims. The events here will be organized on Sunday by the Israel AIDS Task Force. The central event in Tel Aviv al 7 p.m. will be a candlelight march from Sderol Ben-Zion, corner of King George Street, ending at 8 p.m. at the Cinematheoue. Judy Siegel

